

# Carbon monoxide response

Exercise extreme caution when responding to a carbon monoxide incident. CO is not only highly toxic, but also highly flammable. It will ignite when its concentration is 12 to 74 percent gas-in-air.

Proceed with caution—CO is highly toxic and flammable.

- 1. Using your PPE and SCBA, your first step is to quickly evacuate the building**
- 2. Depending on the CO concentration, harmful effects of the gas can occur in just a few minutes.**  
If any occupants are exhibiting symptoms of CO poisoning, make sure they get fresh air and seek immediate medical attention. Common symptoms are headaches, fatigue, nausea and dizziness.
- 3.** Next, you must ventilate the building.
- 4.** Then, **shut off the natural gas** to the structure at the service valve **before the meter.**