

# Carbon monoxide home owners checklist

The dangerous emission of carbon monoxide into buildings can be prevented in most cases through proper appliance installation, maintenance, and use.

- Never run a vehicle in an enclosed garage—even with the door open!
- Use generators outdoors only, far from windows, doors, and vents.
- Have a qualified professional thoroughly inspect and clean heating and cooling equipment at least once a year.
- Check vents, flue pipes, and chimneys periodically for corrosion or blockages.
- After insulating or remodeling a home, make sure appliances and heating equipment still have adequate ventilation.
- Make sure the damper is open and ventilation is adequate when the fireplace is used.
- Make sure the clothes dryer is properly vented.
- Use appliances properly. Don't use barbecue grills indoors; don't use the range or oven as a space heater.
- Only a licensed contractor should be hired to inspect and repair faulty appliances, piping, and wiring.

## Carbon monoxide detectors save lives.

CO detectors sense the accumulation of carbon monoxide before it reaches dangerous levels. UL-listed models should be installed and operated according to manufacturers' instructions. The Consumer Product Safety Commission recommends installing one CO detector in the hallway near every separate sleeping area of a home. Many cities and states now require CO detectors in residences.