

Preventing Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless gas that kills without warning. Common symptoms of CO poisoning are: headache, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion.

If you or someone you know is experiencing these symptoms, get outside immediately, and call 911.

To reduce your risk of CO poisoning:

- Install and maintain CO alarms inside your home to provide an early warning of CO exposure
- Install CO alarms in a central location outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of your home
- Use portable generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas away from all doors, windows, and vents
- Make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of snow and other debris

CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) POISONING



CAN'T BE SEEN



CAN'T BE SMELLED



CAN'T BE HEARD



CAN BE STOPPED

Heating your Home Safely

Although trending downward since the early 1980s, heating fires remained the second leading cause of home fires in 2021.

Some things you can do to prevent heating related home fires include:

- Keep anything that can burn at least **3** feet away from all heat sources including fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, portable heaters, or candles
- Always plug space heaters directly into an outlet, and make sure the cord is not damaged
- Never use an oven to heat your home
- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected every year by a professional



Why You Should Be #WINTERREADY

Topics Included:

- Making an emergency car kit
- Preventing carbon monoxide poisoning
- Winter travel safety
- Preparing for winter storms
- Heating your home safely

Information adapted from Ready.gov



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Making an Emergency Car Kit

Plan long trips carefully and listen to the radio or television for up-to-date weather forecasts and road conditions. In bad weather drive only if absolutely necessary.

Items to have in your car's emergency kit include:

- Drinking water and snacks
- First Aid Kit
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Ice scraper and snow brush
- Jumper cables
- Sand or non-clumping cat litter
- Snow shovel
- Multi-tool
- Reflective warning triangles or road side flares
- Blankets and extra warm clothing
- Winter boots
- Winter gloves
- Phone charger



Winter Travel Safety

Expect the unexpected to drive safely in Wisconsin winters.

- Keep Your Distance
 - Stay 200 feet behind snowplows
 - Leave room to brake
- Be Prepared
 - Have a fully charged phone and emergency kit in your vehicle
- Clear It Before You Go
 - Remove ice and snow from vehicle windows, lights, and mirrors
- Go Slow In Ice and Snow
 - Drive for conditions
- Stay Focused
 - Buckle Up, Phone Down
- You Cruise, You Lose
 - Avoid cruise control in winter conditions



Preparing for Winter Storms

If the forecast shows the storm a few days out:

- Have emergency supplies for your home and vehicle
- Check your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors
- Replenish fuel for your vehicle and heating sources

The day before the storm:

- Adjust plans
- Have multiple ways to receive emergency alerts
- Bring pets indoors, and ensure they have water

During and after the storm:

- Check on family and neighbors
- Properly ventilate emergency heat sources
- Keep generators at least 20 feet from your home
- Take it easy when shoveling

