

# BE AWARE OF CARBON MONOXIDE

## BCSA SAFETY TIPS



### Does your family know the danger signs?



Carbon monoxide – sometimes called “the silent killer” – is a colourless, odourless gas that is produced by burning a carbon fuel such as propane, natural gas, wood, charcoal, alcohol, kerosene, or gasoline. When these fuels are burned in an area that is properly ventilated, the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning is low, but it is still important for your whole family to know the signs of the presence of carbon monoxide in the home, and what to do if they suspect it is present.

#### Danger signs of carbon monoxide exposure include:

- flu-like symptoms such as headache, dizziness, drowsiness, fatigue, confusion, nausea or vomiting
- dying house plants
- condensation on the inside of the windows
- discoloration or soot build-up on heating appliances, the fireplace or at the warm air outlets of the heating system
- loose, disconnected, rusted or water-streaked vents on the chimney

#### If you suspect carbon monoxide exposure, you should:

- leave the building immediately
- call 911 or your local fire department
- seek medical help

For extra peace of mind for you and your family, you might consider buying a Carbon Monoxide Alarm for your home, cabin and RV. Be sure that the alarm you consider buying carries the approval of the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), and follow the instructions in your owner’s manual to ensure it is properly maintained.

A little knowledge goes a long way to ensuring your family’s safety – make sure everyone in your family knows the signs of carbon monoxide, and what to do if they suspect it is present.

For more details about carbon monoxide, pick up a copy of our brochure “Carbon Monoxide Safety – Understanding the Silent Killer”, or call us toll-free at 1.866.566.7233 (SAFE) and we will send it to you.