

# Smoke Alarms

With today's modern furnishings, fires can spread much more rapidly than in the past when more natural materials were used. Because of this, having a sufficient number of properly located smoke alarms is essential to maximize the amount of available escape time.

Smoke alarms save lives!! Having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half. Almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

## Here's what you need to know!

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home.
- Test your smoke alarms monthly
- Replace all smoke alarms in your home every 10 years.

# Carbon monoxide

Although the popularity of carbon monoxide (CO) alarms has been growing in recent years, it cannot be assumed that everyone is familiar with the hazards of carbon monoxide poisoning in the home.

Often called the invisible killer, carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. In the home, heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel are potential sources of carbon monoxide. Vehicles or generators running in an attached garage can also produce dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.

## Here's what you need to know!

- The dangers of CO exposure depend on a number of variables, including the victim's health and activity level. Infants, pregnant women, and people with physical conditions that limit their body's ability to use oxygen (i.e. emphysema, asthma, heart disease) can be more severely affected by lower concentrations of CO than healthy adults would be.
- A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.
- CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.

Source: NFPA

# Conclusion

- When a smoke or carbon monoxide alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside.
- Immediately call 911 and South Davis Metro Fire Agency will send the closest unit to determine the safety of your home or business.