

Willow Grove Volunteer Fire Company #1

Carbon Monoxide and Smoke Detector Precautions

The Fall chill settled in a little later than usual this year, so some of us are just getting around to using the heaters in our homes.

The Willow Grove Volunteer Fire Company #1 would like to remind residents that is very important for every household to have functioning smoke detectors and Carbon Monoxide (CO) alarms. If you didn't replace the batteries in those devices when the time changed earlier month, please do so now.

Accidental carbon monoxide poisoning related to faulty, improperly installed or incorrectly used appliances such as furnaces, stoves, water heaters or fireplaces is a regular occurrence in our area.

CO is a gas that you cannot see, taste or smell. It is created by fossil fuels such as kerosene, gasoline, coal, natural gas, propane, methane or wood. CO poisoning can result from faulty furnaces or other heating appliances, portable generators, water heaters, clothes dryers or cars left running in garages.

Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include headache, nausea and drowsiness and exposure to high levels of the gas can be fatal.

Make sure to choose CO alarms that are labeled by recognized testing laboratories and install them according to manufacturer instructions outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home.

CO alarms are not substitutes for smoke alarms and vice versa. There are some combination smoke-CO alarms and they should be installed accordance with requirements for smoke alarms.

Test your CO alarm monthly and replace them if they fail to respond properly or when the end-of-life signal sounds.

If the audible low battery signal sounds, replace the batteries or the device. If the CO alarm continues to signal, go to area with fresh air and call 9-1-1.

If you have questions or concerns you can call 215 659-7633 Monday to Friday from 6 am to 6 pm and Thursday Nights from 7 pm till 9 pm