

# CARBON MONOXIDE KILLS DON'T LET IT BE YOU



**PROTECT**  
*your family with annual safety checks*

**CONNECT**  
*an audible carbon monoxide alarm*

**REJECT**  
*appliances fitted by unqualified people*

**SUSPECT**  
*CO poisoning if you recognise the signs*

- 24-hour national gas emergency number: 0800 111 999
- Gas emergency minicom: 0800 37 17 87
- Solid fuel advice number: 0845 6014 406
- Health & Safety CO advice line: 0800 300 363
- OFTEC oil-fired advice line: 0845 65 85 080
- Gas Safe Register information: 0800 408 5500

#### Chronic health problems?

Visit your GP or phone your NHS information service

- NHS Direct Wales: 0845 46 47 (minicom: 0845 606 4647)

## what is carbon monoxide?

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colourless, odourless, tasteless, poisonous gas which can be emitted by faulty appliances powered by any fuel that burns.

## how can I protect myself?

Once a year, service all appliances powered by any fuel that burns: gas, coal, oil, petrol, wood etc. Sweep chimneys and flues. Landlords are legally bound to arrange annual gas safety checks and suppliers offer free yearly gas checks to some vulnerable customers.

## can't I just fit an alarm?

CO alarms are important but ARE NOT a substitute for servicing or annual safety checks. Audible CO alarms SHOULD comply with BS EN 50291 and carry a British/European approval mark eg



## who can work on my appliances?

Services and checks must ALWAYS be carried out by registered installers. DO NOT USE an appliance unless you are certain it's been professionally installed.

## signs of carbon monoxide

Look out for gas appliances burning with a yellow/orange flame that's normally blue, extra condensation, pilot lights blowing out, sooting and/or yellow stains round appliances.

## symptoms of carbon monoxide

- 'flu-like' symptoms
- chest or stomach pains
- erratic behaviour
- nausea and/or vomiting
- breathlessness
- feeling tired or drowsy
- giddiness/headaches
- visual problems

**Suspect CO poisoning? Turn appliances off. Open doors and windows. Get everyone outside into fresh air immediately.**

**In a medical emergency, don't delay: phone 999**



**GAS**



**OIL**



**SOLID FUEL**

**Always use a qualified, accredited professional**



Further info: [www.energynetworks.org/CO](http://www.energynetworks.org/CO)

© ENA 2009 This leaflet is produced by Energy Networks Association