

## Warm Weather Carbon Monoxide Hazards

- Gas or charcoal grill used inside an enclosed area.



- Gas-powered tools (lawn mower, generator, chain saw) run in a home, garage, or under a tarp.



- Gas-fueled lanterns and stoves used inside a small, sealed area like a tent, trailer, or boat cabin.

- “Teak surfing” or pulling “skiers” from a boat’s diving platform.

- Diving from or swimming near houseboat platforms while motor is running.

- An improperly installed or poorly functioning gas- or kerosene-burning appliance.

**To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury:**

Call the Consumer Product Safety Commission’s toll-free hotline at 1-800-638-2772 (TTY available at 1-800-638-8270) or e-mail at [info@cpcs.gov](mailto:info@cpcs.gov).

**POISON**  
**Help**  
**1-800-222-1222**

Call the  
Northern New England  
Poison Center

**1-800-222-1222**

Voice/TTY/ 

Interpretation Services Available

Relay Service: 7-1-1

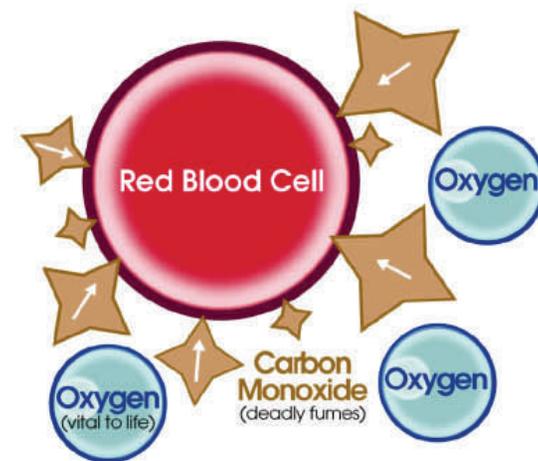
Poison Emergencies  
Prevention Questions  
Medication Safety

24hrs • Free • Confidential

[www.nnepc.org](http://www.nnepc.org)

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## Carbon Monoxide Poisoning and Prevention



Carbon monoxide prevents oxygen from being carried in the blood.

The “Invisible” Killer  
*You cannot see or smell carbon monoxide -- but at high levels it can kill you in minutes.*

**Northern New England  
Poison Center**

**Carbon monoxide** is a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas.

It enters the body through the lungs, and is delivered to the blood. It prevents the blood from carrying and using oxygen properly, and harms the brain and other organs.

Carbon monoxide is made when fuels burn improperly. Many fuels can produce carbon monoxide, such as:

- Wood
- Oil
- Natural gas
- Gasoline
- Kerosene
- Propane
- Coal



## Symptoms

Carbon monoxide poisoning begins with flu-like symptoms. They include:

- Headache
- Fatigue
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea
- Dizziness

## Risk of Poisoning

- When appliances, equipment, or heating systems burn fuel, there is risk of carbon monoxide poisoning if they are not working properly. (Electric appliances and electric heating systems do not produce carbon monoxide.)
- If the appliances and equipment do not function as they should, have worn parts, or are vented improperly, there is great risk for carbon monoxide poisoning.

## Carbon Monoxide Emergency

If you suspect that you have been exposed to carbon monoxide:

- Get to fresh air right away.
- Call **911** or local fire department.
- Call the Northern New England Poison Center at **1-800-222-1222**.



## Prevention Tips

- Have appliances and heating systems installed by a professional.
- Place carbon monoxide alarms close to sleeping areas. Place extra alarms on every level and in every bedroom of a home for more protection.
- Check battery-operated carbon monoxide alarms monthly and replace batteries according to the manufacturer's instructions or when batteries are low.
- Never run a portable generator under windows or indoors, including garages, basements and crawlspaces.
- Never burn charcoal inside a home, garage, closed-in porch, vehicle or tent unless properly vented to the outside.
- Never leave a car running in a garage, even with the garage door open.
- Have your furnace and chimney cleaned by professionals once a year before heating season.

