

Ask a Firefighter: 12-08-08
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As nightly temperatures continue to drop, the Glendale Fire Department wants to remind everyone of the dangers of carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide is produced when fuels go unburned. Many people get creative by trying to stay warm and inadvertently fall victim to what firefighters call, “the silent killer,” carbon monoxide poisoning. It is called the silent killer because carbon monoxide cannot be seen and can’t be detected by smell or taste. Often times you may not know when it’s around until it is too late. A common mistake that firefighters are still finding are the use of camping type stoves, ovens and even propane bar-b-q grills in the home as a source of heat. Only electric heaters that are approved are recommended to heat your home.

Another mistake happens when people start their car to warm it up while it is still parked in the garage. Many times this is done with the garage door kept down. This can also be deadly. It doesn’t take long for the garage and home to be filled with the deadly gas. It is important to open the garage door before starting the engine, pull the car out of the garage to be warmed while it is parked outside of the garage.

The Glendale Fire Department is asking everyone to install carbon monoxide detectors in your home. Carbon monoxide detectors work like smoke alarms do. They will sound when the odorless gas is detected to let everyone know it is time to get out and call 9-11. Carbon monoxide detectors can be picked up at most places smoke alarms can be found.

The Glendale Fire Department is wishing you a Happy and Safe Holiday Season!