

# DANGER!

## CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) POISONING



**CAN'T BE  
SEEN**



**CAN'T BE  
SMELLED**



**CAN'T BE  
HEARD**



**CAN BE  
STOPPED**

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless gas that kills without warning. It claims the lives of hundreds of people every year and makes thousands more ill. Many household items including gas- and oil-burning furnaces, portable generators, and charcoal grills produce this poison gas. Following these important steps can keep your family safe.

### **CO DETECTORS**

- Install battery-operated or battery back-up CO detectors near every sleeping area in your home.
- Check CO detectors regularly to be sure they are functioning properly.

### **OIL & GAS FURNACES**

- Have your furnace inspected every year.

### **PORTABLE GENERATORS**

- Never use a generator inside your home or garage, even if doors and windows are open.
- Only use generators outside, more than 20 feet away from your home, doors, and windows.



**U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services**  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention

# PROTECT YOUR FAMILY