

# Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Carbon Monoxide Alarms are required in all qualifying dwelling units by AS 18.70.095(a).

## **Do you need a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm?**

If you live or spend time in a single family house, duplex, apartment, dormitory or group home that has a carbon based fuel appliance, an attached garage or carport or is adjacent to a parking space, the law requires the installation of a carbon monoxide alarm(s) to warn you and your family if carbon monoxide is present.

If you live or spend time in a RV, cabin or boat, installation of a carbon monoxide alarm(s) is highly recommended if the RV, recreational cabin or boat meet the above conditions.

## **What is carbon monoxide?**

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless, poisonous gas produced by incomplete burning of carbon based fuel burning appliances or engines.

## **What are carbon based fuels?**

|             |                               |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Wood        | Propane                       |
| Charcoal    | Methane                       |
| Coal        | LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) |
| Stove Oil   | LNG (liquefied natural gas)   |
| Waste Oil   | Gasoline                      |
| Kerosene    | Diesel                        |
| Natural Gas |                               |

## **What appliances or engines use carbon based fuel?**

### Heating appliances

Boilers  
Furnaces  
Space heaters  
Fire places  
Water heaters  
Wood stoves

### Cooking appliances

Stoves  
Ovens  
Charcoal grills

### Household appliances

Clothes dryers

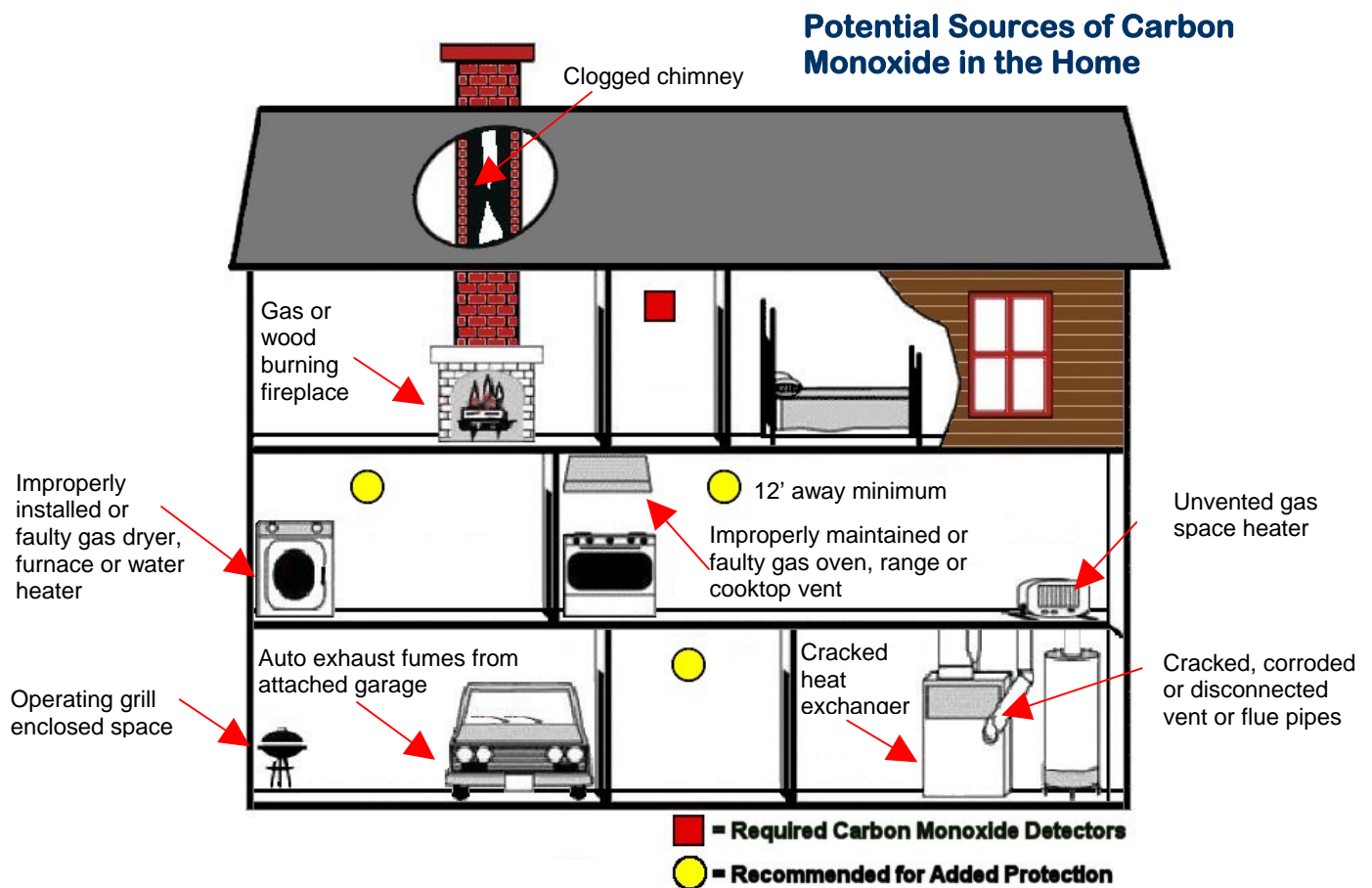
### Motor vehicles

Cars  
Trucks  
SUVs  
Motorcycles  
Boats  
Jet skis  
Airplanes  
ATVs  
Snow machines  
Snow blowers  
Lawn mowers

## Where do I install the CO Alarm?

1. Place the CO alarm adjacent to the room containing the boiler, water heater, furnace or other carbon based heating appliance, include the floor above and the floor below the appliance.
2. Place a CO alarm inside the dwelling unit near the door to the attached garage or car port.
3. Install a CO alarm in the hallway outside the sleeping rooms in each area of the dwelling where sleeping areas are located.
4. Install a CO alarm outside the kitchen area if there is a carbon based fuel appliance present.

Only purchase CO alarms that are UL listed. **The number of CO alarms will depend on the size and layout of your home.**



## **How to install the CO alarm?**

Read and follow the manufacturer's directions when installing the alarm.

### **Here are some examples:**

A two story single family house with an attached carport should have a CO alarm in the hallway outside of the sleeping areas, a CO alarm outside of the kitchen and inside the home near the door to the garage. If the door to the garage is within 15 feet of another CO alarm, one CO alarm may be adequate.

A one story single family house with a natural gas demand water heater in the kitchen and an attached airplane hangar/garage should have a CO alarm near the door to the hangar, a CO alarm outside the kitchen area and an alarm outside of the sleeping area.

A small (900 square feet or less) one story home with electric heat and electric appliances with an attached garage will need a CO alarm inside the home near the door to the garage.

A four story apartment building with a boiler room on the bottom floor will need a CO alarm in the hallway outside the boiler room and a CO alarm in the hallway on the floor above the boiler room.

An apartment building with electric heat but a natural gas cooking stove in each unit will need CO alarms outside the kitchen area of each apartment.

A duplex with electric heating and cooking appliances but with two parking spaces directly in front of the building will need CO alarms in both units nearest the door to the parking spaces and near the sleeping area.

**If a non-electric space heater is used in any type of dwelling unit a CO alarm must be installed following the recommendations listed above.**