Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Tips

The Silent Killer
Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless and odorless gas that you cannot see, taste or smell. It is created when burning a fuel, such as gasoline, propane, natural gas, oil, wood or charcoal. Each year, 184 children in the United States die due to CO poisoning and more than 20,000 children visit the emergency room.

Facts
• From 1999 to 2004, Pennsylvania had the highest rate of CO related deaths in the United States.
• A 2005 survey found that less than 30 percent of households had a CO detector.

Find out how to keep your kids safe from carbon monoxide (see back)
What You Need to Know to Keep Your Kids Safe from Carbon Monoxide

Symptoms
• Headache, dizziness, fatigue, nausea, vomiting and confusion.
• In severe cases, it can lead to loss of consciousness or even death.

Prevention
• Install a CO alarm on every level of your home, at least 15 feet away from fuel-burning appliances.
• Test CO detector monthly and replace every 5-7 years depending on the manufacturer’s label.
• Do not use a grill, generator or camping stove inside your home or garage.
• Do not leave a car, SUV or motorcycle engine running inside a garage.
• Have all fuel-burning appliances inspected by a technician every year.
• Never use a stove to heat your home.

Get Up and Out
• If the alarm goes off, immediately leave your house. Make sure everyone in your home gets outside safely.
• Call 911 and remain outside until emergency personnel arrive.

Learn more: www.PASafeKids.org