

# KIDDE CO DETECTOR

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What is Carbon Monoxide?**

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless and tasteless gas. It is produced when any fuel is burned without sufficient oxygen. The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) warns that overexposure to CO can cause serious illness and even death.

### **What are the effects of CO Exposure?**

According to the CPSC's *Carbon Monoxide Questions and Answers*, the initial symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are often mistaken for the flu or mistakenly diagnosed by a physician. The symptoms include headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, sleepiness and confusion. Breathing very high concentrations of carbon monoxide can be lethal in minutes. Breathing low concentrations over time is dangerous too.

### **What are the common sources of Carbon Monoxide?**

The CPSC notes that harmful CO can occur if there is poor ventilation of fuel-burning appliances such as gas furnaces, ovens and portable heaters. Fumes from auto exhaust, generator sets and improperly vented fireplaces, grills, and wood stoves can also be sources. The chance of CO poisoning during the winter months can be greater since most homes have the windows closed.

### **What can you do to protect your family?**

The CPSC recommends:

- Have fuel-burning appliances- such as oil and gas heaters, furnaces, ovens, fireplaces- and heating systems such as chimneys and vents serviced annually.
- Install CO detectors alarms that meets the requirements of the current UL standard 2034 or the requirements of the IAS 6-96 standard near the bedrooms in the home
- Never burn charcoal inside your home or garage.
- Always open the chimney flue when you use your fireplace.
- Never use gas appliances such as ranges, ovens or clothes dryers to heat your home
- Never run a combustion engine, such as your car, lawn mower or snow blower, in enclosed areas.

### **What is the new law in Illinois for CO detectors?**

Effective January 1<sup>st</sup> 2007, all residential, multi-residential and mixed occupancy buildings must have a functioning CO detector within 15 feet of each sleeping room.

### **Is there a penalty if I do not install a detector?**

Under the new law, anyone failing to install or maintain a carbon monoxide alarm can be punished with up to six months in jail and a \$1,500 fine.

Tampering with, removing, destroying, disconnecting or removing the batteries from the device could result in up to a year in jail and \$2,500 in fines for a first offence. Additional violations could mean three years in jail and a \$25,000 fine.

### **Why should I buy this CO detector?**

Consumer Report has rated the Kidde 900-0099 as one of the industry's top rated CO detectors. This AC powered, plug-in carbon monoxide alarm utilizes sophisticated electronic components and unmatched sensor technology to protect you and your family from the dangers of CO. This unit includes a rechargeable lithium-ion battery backup that provides continuous monitoring of CO levels, even during power outages, when AC units are not providing protection. This CO detector features Kidde's patented Nighthawk technology, which Kidde's literature notes has proven to be the world's most accurate CO sensing technology. The CO alarm is UL listed and protected by a seven-year limited warranty.

### **How many alarms do I need in my house?**

The new law mandates that every dwelling unit must be equipped with at least one approved carbon monoxide alarm in an operating condition within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping purposes. A dwelling unit, defined as a room or suite of rooms used for human habitation, would include a single-family residence as well as each living unit of a multiple-family residence and each living unit in a mixed use building.

### **What happens during a power outage?**

The Kidde 900-0099 CO detector comes with a rechargeable lithium-ion battery back-up. The battery ensures continued detection and warning even during a power outage.

### **Should my CO alarm have a digital display?**

#### **What does the Peak level Memory function do?**

- A digital display allows you to see if CO is present and respond before it becomes a dangerous situation.
- Peak Level Memory stores the highest recorded reading prior to being reset. This feature enables you to know if there was a reading while you were away from home.

### **What is the life expectancy on CO detectors?**

Most CO Detectors have a life expectancy of 3-5 years and should be replaced to continue to give protection. You should check the manufacturer's instructions for any existing CO detectors to see if they have exceeded their useful life and need to be replaced. The Kidde 900-0099 CO detector comes with a 7 year limited warranty. This model has a new feature that will alert users to replace CO alarm after 7 years of operation.