

## SMOKE ALARMS

Roughly 3 out of 5 fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

### HOW CAN I STAY SAFE?

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside each bedroom and outside each sleeping area.
- Place smoke alarms on the ceiling or high on a wall.
- Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 metres) from the stove.
- Interconnect the alarms so when one sounds, they all sound.
- Test your smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button. Do it yourself with a broom handle or have someone test them for you.
- Replace all alarms that are 10 years old or older whether they are hard wired in or battery operated. A smoke alarm needs to be replaced when:
  - The sticker on the side of the smoke alarm indicates a previous year. Stickers were widely used starting in 2002. Smoke alarms without a sticker generally need to be replaced.
  - The manufactured date stamped on the back of the smoke alarm plus 10 years – the alarm will need to be taken down to find the date.
  - Smoke alarms that are any colour other than white are out of date and need to be replaced.
- Make sure everyone in your home can hear the smoke alarms. If you are hard of hearing or remove your hearing aids to sleep, consider purchasing a strobe alarm and/or bed shaker.



## CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) ALARM

CO is an odourless, colourless, tasteless gas that is life threatening in higher concentrations. How do you protect yourself?

### HOW CAN I STAY SAFE?

- Install carbon monoxide alarms outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. CO is approximately the same weight as air and therefore a CO alarm can be installed close to the floor (for example a plug in CO alarm) or higher up (for example a combination smoke and CO alarm).
  - Test alarms monthly.
- Replace CO alarms according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Move to a fresh air location immediately (outdoors or by an open window or door) and call 9-1-1, if your CO alarms sounds.

