



# SAFE KIDS GRAND FORKS

Keeping kids safe at **HOME**, at **SCHOOL**, at **PLAY** and **ON** the **WAY**.

To access our safety information, donate or volunteer in our efforts to keep kids safe from preventable injuries, visit [www.safekidsgf.com](http://www.safekidsgf.com) or call 701.780.1489.



Altru Health System is proud to serve as the lead agency for Safe Kids Grand Forks. For more information, LIKE us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.



## Cold Weather Is Upon Us: Keep Your Home Free of Carbon Monoxide Dangers

Fuel-powered devices can provide wonderful benefits to families when used properly. But they also underscore an important necessity in the home: the need for a carbon monoxide alarm. Carbon monoxide poisoning can result from faulty furnaces or other heating appliances, portable generators, water heaters, clothes dryers, or cars left running in garages. At its worst, carbon monoxide can cause severe side effects or even death.

### Install Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- Make sure your home has a carbon monoxide alarm. If you don't have one, please go out and get one.
- As with smoke alarms, make sure you have a carbon monoxide alarm on every level of your home, especially near sleeping areas, and keep them at least 15 feet away from fuel-burning appliances.
- You won't know that you have a carbon monoxide leak without a working alarm. So test alarms regularly and replace them every five to seven years depending on the manufacturer's label.
- For the best protection, have carbon monoxide alarms that are interconnected throughout the home. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Carbon monoxide alarms are not substitutes for smoke alarms, and vice versa. Combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are available.

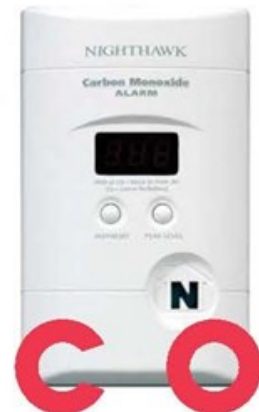


### Understand How Carbon Monoxide Can Be Harmful

- Don't use a grill, generator or camping stove inside your home, garage or near a window.
- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Don't leave a car, SUV or motorcycle engine running inside a garage, even if the doors are open.
- Never use your oven or stovetop to heat your home.
- On the outside of your home, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow and other debris.
- Carbon monoxide can accumulate in or around your motorboat, so install an alarm on your boat.



*Carbon monoxide (CO) is a gas that you cannot see, taste or smell. Each year, 184 children in the United States die due to carbon monoxide poisoning and more than 20,000 children visit the emergency room.*



This information has been distributed by Safe Kids Grand Forks and Altru Health System. For more information childhood safety and injury risk areas, contact Safe Kids Grand Forks at 701.780.1489 or [safekids@altru.org](mailto:safekids@altru.org).