

## **Carbon Monoxide Safety Tips from McDOUGALL FIRE DEPARTMENT**

- To minimize the risk of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning, maintain all of your fuel or wood burning appliances in excellent working order.
- The McDougall Fire Department recommends installing and maintaining CO alarms in your homes, cottages and trailers.
- Maintain and change your batteries when you service your smoke alarm.

Here are some important facts:

- CO is the number one cause of accidental poisoning deaths in North America.
- CO is a gas that you can't see, smell or taste. It is produced by gas or oil furnaces, space heater and water heaters, clothes dryers, ovens, wood stoves and other household appliances that run on fossil fuels such as wood, gas, oil or coal.
- When you inhale CO, it can cause brain damage, suffocation or death.
- CO poisoning and the flu seem a lot alike at first. Early warning signs of low-level poisoning include tiredness, headaches, dizziness, nausea and shortness of breath. Your skin may also turn pink or red in response to rising blood pressure. If you experience any of these symptoms, you may be suffering from CO poisoning.
- If your CO detector sounds, you and all members of your household should leave your home immediately. From outside the home, call 9-1-1. Do not go back inside until the problem has been found and corrected. The McDougall Fire Department will inspect your home to locate the source of the CO.

**For more information, contact:  
Brian Leduc, Fire Chief**

**705-342-5252**