



Fire Chief Bradford L. Shull, OFE

Gahanna Council – October 2016

COLD IS UPON US! KEEP SAFETY HIGH, WHEN TEMPS ARE LOW!

Cold weather in Ohio is imminent, so why not be prepared! Here are a few items to be aware of to help protect your family as the temperature drops.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) – A Silent Killer

- CO is a poisonous, colorless and odorless gas that can be produced by incomplete combustion from gas appliances or fireplaces.
- Cause nearly 200 deaths a year in the US, with thousands of poisonings annually
- Your hemoglobin prefers CO over oxygen
- Victims with CO poisoning often report having flu like symptoms
- Common Causes, to name a few
 - Poorly burning gas appliances
 - Cracked heat exchangers
 - Blocked flue or vent
 - Unvented heaters
 - Generators
- Have CO detectors on hand
 - Install high on the wall in sleeping areas
 - Only good for 5-7 years
 - Can be combined with smoke detectors

Chimney fires

- Leading cause of residential fires from heating sources
- Must be inspected annually for:
 - Soundness
 - Cracked linings
 - Separating multi-walled pipe
 - Freedom from deposits
 - Creosote buildup
 - Blockages resulting from animals
 - Correct clearances
- Cleaning should occur if inspection warrants
- Use clean seasoned wood to minimize deposit buildup