



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, November 1, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week November 1 – 7

Beat the “silent killer”: Prevent CO at home

(Barrie, ON) Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week runs from November 1-7 and Barrie Fire and Emergency Service (BFES) reminds residents to prevent carbon monoxide (CO) at home by getting all fuel-burning appliances inspected annually and ensuring there are working CO alarms outside of all sleeping areas.

“In Ontario, more than 65 per cent of injuries and deaths from CO occur in the home,” said Assistant Deputy Fire Chief Carrie Clark. “There is an increased risk of CO poisoning during the colder seasons when we spend more time indoors and increase our use of gas heaters, fireplaces, and other devices to beat the cold. Stay safe this season and make sure you get all fuel-burning appliances inspected by a registered contractor.”

The Ontario Fire Code requires all homes in Ontario with fuel-burning appliances, a fireplace or an attached garage to have working CO alarms outside of each sleeping area. Fuel-burning appliances can include furnaces, hot water heaters, gas or wood fireplaces, portable fuel-burning heaters and generators, barbecues or stoves.

Condos and apartment buildings with a service room, are required to have CO alarms installed in the service room and adjacent to each sleeping area of all homes above, below and beside the service room. In condo or apartment buildings that have a garage, CO alarms must be installed adjacent to each sleeping area of all homes above, below and beside the garage.

BFES has partnered with Lowe's and Home Depot to host two safety events during the week. On Saturday, November 2, join firefighters from 12 to 4 p.m. at Lowe's (71 Bryne Drive). There will be giveaways, a fire truck demonstration and information about smoke, carbon monoxide alarms and home escape planning. On Wednesday, November 6 from 1 to 2 p.m., BFES is hosting a free workshop at Home Depot (10 Barrierview Drive). The workshop will cover everything residents need to know to stay safe from the silent killer. Residents are encouraged to sign up for the workshop at the Home Depot Customer Service Desk.

During Carbon Monoxide Awareness Week, Barrie Fire and Emergency Service is giving away free CO alarms to everyone who provides proof of having their furnace and fireplace professionally cleaned this year. Residents can visit Fire Station 1, 155 Dunlop Street West, or tag BFES on Facebook ([@BarrieFireService](https://www.facebook.com/BarrieFireService)) or Twitter ([@Barrie_Fire](https://twitter.com/Barrie_Fire)) to show their proof and claim their alarm.

Visit the [CO Awareness Week](http://www.barrie.ca/FireAwarenessEvents) page via www.barrie.ca/FireAwarenessEvents for more information.

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