



Washington State Patrol • State Fire Marshal Chad Cross

\*\*\* For Immediate Release\*\*\*

Captain Deion Glover  
Government and Media Relations

October 20, 2025

**Contact:** Deputy State Fire Marshal Courtney Chambers  
**Phone:** (360) 596-3904  
**Email:** [fpbpio@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:fpbpio@wsp.wa.gov)

### Carbon Monoxide Safety

**Olympia-** Carbon monoxide is an odorless and colorless gas that can be deadly if undetected. Carbon monoxide can be produced from heating, cooking, vehicle exhaust, or generators. Proper installation, testing, and maintenance of carbon monoxide detectors is essential for preventing carbon monoxide poisoning. The United States Fire Administration reports that more than 150 deaths are caused by carbon monoxide exposure every year. Last year in Washington State, 2 individuals were killed by carbon monoxide and over 500 carbon monoxide incidents were reported by fire and emergency medical services agencies.

The State Fire Marshal's Office offers the following safety tips:

- Install carbon monoxide detectors on every level of your home, especially near sleeping areas.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting of CO devices.
- Install a combination of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Test carbon monoxide detectors at least once a month.
- Replace batteries in battery-operated detectors at least once a year.
- Replace carbon monoxide detectors every 5-7 years per the manufacturer's guidelines.
- If your carbon monoxide detector alarms, immediately exit the home and do not re-enter the premises. Once outside, call 911 or your local fire department.
- Never use generators inside homes, garages, or basements.
- If you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning, seek medical attention immediately.
- If possible, install interconnected carbon monoxide alarms throughout the home.

For more information, contact the State Fire Marshal's Office at (360) 596-3904.

###