

Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning during snowstorms

MONTRÉAL, 14 March 2017 – The public health department of the CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal would like to remind Montrealers of measures to take to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.

Don't start your car before clearing the snow away from the car and around the tailpipe. This will prevent exhaust fumes from accumulating under the vehicle and seeping into your car in potentially deadly concentrations.

The best protection: carbon monoxide detectors

The public health department recommends installing carbon monoxide detectors in homes where there are appliances that run on gas, wood or oil, and to get heating systems checked every year. Public health would also like to remind the public never to use fuel-burning appliances during power failures. Since exhaust fumes are toxic, the DSP also recommends installing a carbon monoxide alarm if your home has an attached garage or is above an indoor parking garage.

Carbon monoxide is produced when fuel (e.g. oil, natural gas, wood, kerosene, coal and propane) is burned. In Montréal, two-thirds of homes have at least one source of carbon monoxide, but only a third have CO alarms.

For more information, residents can visit the Santé Montréal portal at <https://www.santemontreal.qc.ca/en/public/health-a-z/co/>.

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