

VINCENT'S NEWS

The 'Van-Go' Gallery



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66 Years of Excellence!



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Did you know...

...carbon monoxide incidents don't all happen when people are home?

On page two, clients Dale & Kathy Mamps share how taking their low level CO monitor on a camping trip saved their lives!

THROUGH MY EYES

Last month I shared about the Carbon Monoxide Safety & Combustion training that we held in August. It fired me up - no pun intended - about the dangers of carbon monoxide and a desire to share what I learned to help keep you safe. This resulted in the nearby article about CO Alarms. This class is also where I learned about the 'backstory' of the 70 ppm standard for CO Alarms that I describe in that article.

There's some additional wisdom that I want to share with you concerning carbon monoxide safety. It doesn't

Continued Page 3



Here are our dispatchers Becca and Dawn displaying the **NSI 6000 Professional Grade Low Level Carbon Monoxide Monitor** described in this issue.

Misinformation & Myths About Carbon Monoxide And Combustion - Part 2

This month we're going to explore misinformation concerning the protection CO Alarms provide. Unfortunately, the Underwriters Laboratory standard that all CO Alarms must pass (UL-2034) means that the alarm provides inadequate protection for anyone other than healthy adults in their prime. **Seniors, immune compromised individuals, children - and even pets - are still at risk.** Here's why:

UL-2034 establishes **70 ppm (parts per million) of CO as the minimum level for a CO Alarm to trigger** - a level **too high** for most people. UL-2034 also requires that the 70 ppm CO threshold must be maintained for at least 60 minutes and up to 240 minutes - **four hours!** - before the alarm is triggered - by design! That's a lot of time to be exposed. Considering that the effects of carbon monoxide are

Continued Page 2

Misinformation & Myths ... (Continued from Pg. 1)

cumulative - CO is poisonous because it displaces oxygen in the blood and builds up - even a healthy person can be at risk with long term exposure to carbon monoxide.

Why do we have such a deficient standard for CO Alarms?

When CO alarms first came out there was no minimum standard and even a tiny amount of carbon monoxide could trigger the alarm - like burning toast or cooking on a gas stovetop.

This resulted in thousands of CO calls to first responders - fire departments - who were run ragged with carbon monoxide calls - most of which weren't life-threatening. As a result, a consensus formed that there must be a minimum standard set to eliminate the overwhelming amount of 'nuisance-calls'.

Back then there wasn't much data available to know what a minimum safe CO level should be. An exception was research done by the U.S. military - which had studied and collected data on the effects of carbon monoxide on soldiers. (Probably due to gas weapons being used in WWI.)

However, the data from the military was of the effects of carbon monoxide on healthy soldiers in the prime of life. As a result, some have suggested that the UL-2034 standard means that a healthy young man between 20 to 34 years of age - the same age range as the military research subjects - would be protected by today's standard CO Alarms. **And as you can see from the chart in the nearby insert, other authorities have set much lower limits of allowable CO exposure.**

The solution?

Protect yourself with a **low-level CO Monitor** that has different intensities of alarms to indicate the urgency of the amount of CO causing the alert. Further, having a digital display that lets you know how much carbon monoxide you are being exposed to is also critical.

Also, you want one with professional grade sensors. This means that they will cost more, but as with anything in life, you get what you pay for. And the operative word in the last sentence is '*life*' - you want the best protection available to make sure you don't become a carbon monoxide statistic.

See the nearby insert for a special savings opportunity on the professional grade NSI 6000 Low Level CO monitor, only available locally from us.

- Daniel Squires

What Our Clients Are Saying ...



"Dale and I want you to know that the low level carbon monoxide monitor we purchased from you saved our lives while camping last spring. We got the monitor after learning about the danger of low level CO in your newsletter and that CO alarms take too long to sound the alarm. It's true. Although our motorhome is equipped with two standard CO alarms, only the NSI 6000 monitor warned us of carbon monoxide from our generator at 3 AM. It woke us up and Dale turned the generator off and opened the windows. It was scary to know if we hadn't brought yours along, the situation could have been much worse! It was literally a lifesaver and we'll never leave home without it!"

- Dale & Kathy Mamps, Port Huron

Through My Eyes (Continued from Pg. 1)

qualify as 'misinformation' or a 'myth' so it doesn't fit the criteria for the current technical series – it's practical tips that I want to make sure that you're aware of – and it can't wait.

Where is the best location for a CO monitor? It's a good idea to have CO Alarms where you spend a lot of time, but at least one CO monitor should be in your bedroom above the height of your dresser (approximately 3-4 feet high).

Why in the bedroom and not by the furnace? If you suspect that CO might be coming from your furnace, the greatest risk occurs after midnight when people are typically in bed sleeping – not by their furnace. This is typically when it's the coldest, and the more your furnace runs to keep up the more carbon monoxide will be created. You want your CO alarm to be by your bed, so it can wake you.

Why should it be located so high? Carbon monoxide is lighter than air so it will accumulate first at the ceiling and fill the room from the ceiling down. You want your CO monitor to sound the alarm before it drops to your level so it has time to wake you up. That's why you want it above your sleeping head.

Which CO Monitor is better: a battery powered model or a 120v plug-in model? This goes along with the last item. You don't want to plug your CO Alarm in an electrical outlet near the floor. Unfortunately, this is where most people plug them and by the time CO drops that low it may already be too late to warn you. Assuming the batteries are

replaced annually, a battery model is potentially better from a safety standpoint.

Does hearing the alarm when I press the test button on a CO Alarm mean that it's working and good? No. While you'll know if the battery is good, it won't tell whether the alarm will go off if carbon monoxide is present. The only way to know if a CO alarm will alert you to the presence of CO is to test it with carbon monoxide gas.

All CO Alarms and monitors use an electro-chemical sensor to test for the presence of carbon monoxide. Over time the chemical dissipates which makes the CO Alarm useless.

Here's a tip: when you get a CO Alarm (or a Smoke Alarm) look at the life expectancy on the packaging and on the alarm write '*Replace by MM/YYYY*' using a Sharpie. When you change the batteries it will remind you when to replace it.

We provide our techs with personal Low Level CO monitors that they wear on their belt, like a pager. And, yes, they've gone off at times when our tech enters a customer's home. I want to make certain our techs are safe.

I'm ready for my annual month off from writing this column and publishing this newsletter. It's November and this is the last issue of Vincent's News for 2025. While I enjoy keeping in touch with you and our other clients, this gives me a break for the holidays. **I wish you a great Thanksgiving, a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. Until next year, stay safe.**

- Daniel Squires



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Y	O	I	E	G	S	N	O	I	T	U	L	O	S	E	R	W	L	E	Q

Budgeting
Celebration
Cleanup
Closure
Countdown
Evaluation
Farewell
Feedback
Forecast
Inventory
Journaling
Memories
Planning
Recognition
Reflection
Reporting
Resolutions
Retreat
Reunion
Snapshot
Summaries
Yearbook

Humor Section



"Thank you, fantasy football draft, for letting me know
that even in my fantasies, I am bad at sports."

"Thank you, hard taco shells, for surviving the long
journey from the factory, to the supermarket, to my
plate, and then breaking the moment I put something
inside you. Thank you."

- Jimmy Fallon

Now that's good news!



" But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I
bring you good news that will cause great joy for
all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior
has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."

-Luke 2:10-11

Did you know?

Seniors, pets and immune compromised individuals are particularly vulnerable to carbon monoxide poisoning, as well as children due to their faster metabolism and smaller body size...

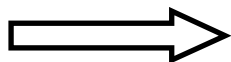
Yet in the fine print for the typical CO Alarm is a disclaimer that it may not provide adequate protection from carbon monoxide for members of this most vulnerable group?

Why? Because unless the CO level exceeds the UL Standard of 70 ppm for at least 1 and up to 4 hours the alarm won't sound! Unfortunately, that's too high for vulnerable individuals.

Consider these CO danger levels (parts per million):

-source National Comfort Institute

THIS IS WHEN
YOUR CO
ALARM WILL
FINALLY
SOUND!



CO LEVEL	CARBON MONOXIDE RISK OBSERVED OR ALLOWABLE LIMIT
3-7 ppm	6% increase in the rate of admission in hospitals of non-elderly for asthma. (Sheppard-1999)
5-6 ppm	Significant risk of low birth rate if exposed during last trimester (Ritz & Yu - 1999)
10 ppm	Outdoor level of CO found associated with a significant increase in heart disease deaths and hospital admissions for congestive heart failure.
15 - 20 ppm	First level <u>World Health Organization</u> (WHO) lists as causing impaired performance, decrease in exercise time and vigilance.
25 ppm	Maximum allowable in a parking garage (<u>International Mechanical Code</u>)
27 ppm	21% increase in cardio respiratory complaints. (Kurt-1978)
35 ppm	<u>US NIOSH</u> recommended 8-hour maximum workplace exposure. <u>EPA standard</u> for outdoors for 1-hour and a maximum of 1-time per year.
50 ppm	<u>US OSHA</u> recommended 8-hour maximum workplace exposure.
70 ppm	First alarm level for a <u>store bought</u> - UL 2034 approved - CO alarm.

The typical store-bought alarm (*Kidde, First Alert, etc.*) from a hardware store will only sound the alarm after 70 ppm (parts-per-million) has been sensed and then it can take up to 4 hours before the alarm is required to sound!

Regarding CO, you're safer sleeping in a public parking garage - which has a 25 ppm maximum allowable limit - than you are with a store-bought CO Alarm for protection!

...continued from front...

For Real Protection You Need the NSI 6000 * Professional Grade Low-Level CO Monitor & Log

The National Safety Institute professional grade low-level monitor & log senses CO levels as low as 5 ppm.

Infants, children, elderly, persons with respiratory or heart ailments receive little or no protection from deadly carbon monoxide with standard alarms.

At \$249, the NSI 6000 costs more than carbon monoxide monitors bought from retail stores, but when you and your family's safety is on the line, isn't quality more important than price?

Accurate, low-level CO detection requires more expensive components and quality control. The full-featured NSI 6000 Low Level CO monitor uses the same technology and sensors as in professional-grade CO analyzers used by carbon monoxide professionals, fire departments, and utilities.



The NSI 6000 Low-Level CO Monitor & Log is at Vincent's Heating & Plumbing

NSI 6000 FEATURES:

- **Continuous Scan™** mode indicates monitor is operating 24/7
- Digital display shows CO levels of **5 ppm+ (parts per million)**
- **Low Alarm** - 15 ppm-audible & visual every 8 seconds
- **High Alarm** - 35 ppm-audible & visual every 4 seconds
- **Crisis Alarm** - 70+ ppm-audible & visual every 2 seconds

- **Bluetooth compatible** - comes FREE SMART PHONE APP that allows you to sync with your mobile devices, store and review history and much more!
- **5-min. "Hush" button** for levels below 70 ppm
- Designed for wall installation or tabletop use
- Operates on replaceable CR123A 3V battery.
- 2-year limited warranty

Save \$40 off a NSI 6000 Low-Level CO Monitor

Reg. Price ~~\$249~~

Now \$209

Enhanced Service Plan price after 10% discount: \$188.¹⁰

Free delivery with any service or maintenance visit.

Offer Expires December 31

CALL (810) 985-7103 to set up a service call or maintenance visit for free delivery OR stop by the office to purchase.

Vincent's Heating & Plumbing 2650 Oak St, Port Huron

Are you currently being protected by a first generation NSI 3000 Low Level Carbon Monoxide Monitor that you previously invested in with us?

The NSI 6000 Low Level CO Monitor is an updated and redesigned version of our popular NSI 3000 Monitor the we have been promoting for years. The updated version features a new, sleeker look, plus a new Bluetooth smart device app allows you to sync with your mobile devices, store and review history, and much more! Consider upgrading to the NSI 6000 - especially if your NSI 3000 has reached the five year limit of the electro-chemical CO sensor in it.

For more information about the NSI 6000 Low Level CO Monitor & Log scan the QR Code on the right.



DON'T LET HIDDEN SEWER PROBLEMS TURN INTO A COSTLY DISASTER

Aging sewer lines often hide serious issues. If you've ever had a backup caused by tree roots, that's not just a nuisance—it's a warning sign: your sewer line is broken, and the problem will only get worse. Left untreated, small breaches grow, roots spread, and backups become inevitable. Repairs at that stage are messy, expensive, and often require tearing up your yard to dig out the line.

The smarter choice? **Catch problems early**—when they can still be fixed with far less disruption and cost. Get a Sewer Video Inspection.



USE THE QR CODE TO VIEW A 'BEFORE & AFTER'
SEWER VIDEO INSPECTION VIDEO.

INCLUDES A SPECIAL OFFER TO LEARN HOW YOU
CAN GET A FREE VIDEO SEWER INSPECTION FREE .

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Marvin had to dig up and replace the line to get rid of this root mass.

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WITH PURCHASE OF A FURNACE REPAIR OR MAINTENANCE

Our technician, Jeyson, is shown using an extremely sensitive electronic leak detector that is able to pinpoint even hard to find leaks. When you have us do a gas line leak inspection, we will check the gas lines to all your appliances and all of your (accessible) joints and fittings. Over time, the pipe sealant used at connections and fittings can dry out and be the source of a leak. It's also especially important to check gas shut-offs which can be prone to leaks. Having your gas lines periodically inspected for leaks is important for the safety of you and your family.

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