

**Upcoming Events**

None

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At the District Office:

Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30  
a.m.

Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30  
a.m.

Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30  
a.m.

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**CARBON MONOXIDE: THE INVISIBLE KILLER**

Carbon monoxide (CO) has no odor. You can't smell it and you can't see it. Dangerous levels of carbon monoxide can build up from any fuel-burning appliance or equipment if it isn't working properly or if the CO that is produced isn't conducted safely to the outside. For example, if there isn't enough oxygen available to run your furnace, the rate of CO production can greatly increase. If you don't have a venting system to capture the CO, then heavy or light CO production can lead to a deadly build-up in your home.

The North Tahoe Fire Department strongly recommends that every home be protected by at least one CO detector, which can alert you to dangerous levels of CO in your home in time to prevent poisoning. Early warning of hazardous CO levels is very important, but prevention comes first. Know what you need to do to ensure your home is safe from CO. Cooking and heating equipment and motor vehicles in attached garages make up a large percentage of the home CO problem, but portable electric generators, camp stoves and lanterns can also be culprits when not used properly.

The symptoms of CO poisoning – severe headache, dizziness, nausea – can seem like other illnesses, such as the flu or food poisoning. Learn the signs; CO poisoning requires immediate medical attention.

You can prevent CO poisoning in your home with these key actions:

- Install at least one CO detector near the sleeping area; test it every month and learn the sound of the alarm.
- Have heating equipment inspected each year to identify damage or malfunction; make repairs as needed.
- Open the flue before using the fireplace.
- If you use a kerosene or gas heater, open a window slightly when the heater is in use.
- Use equipment properly; never use an oven to heat a room and never bring BBQ grills indoors or into a garage or covered porch.
- Generators must be used outdoors in well-ventilated areas, never inside the home or garage.
- Always move vehicles out of the garage after starting the ignition and then close the door.
- Don't allow snow or anything else to block the vents for your dryer, stove or heating equipment.

If your CO alarm signals, take it seriously. Quickly check to see if the battery power is low. If the alarm is steady, assume there is a CO leak and evacuate your home. Call 911 and report a suspected CO leak. NTFPD personnel will respond and let you know if it is safe to go back inside or if you need to arrange for a service technician.

Carbon monoxide: you can't see it or smell it, but with the right actions you can stay safe from it. For non-emergency questions regarding carbon monoxide, contact the North Tahoe Fire District, Division of Fire & Life Safety at 583-6913.

**VEHICLE STORAGE BUILDING EXPANSION**

The District is in the process of expanding the existing vehicle storage building (VSB) by one bay. The additional bay, which is approximately 20 feet by 40 feet, will provide storage for North Tahoe Fire Protection District’s vehicles. The District and North Tahoe Fire Protection District entered into a long-term, 40-year lease agreement. As part of the agreement, North Tahoe Fire Protection District will pay for the construction, but the expansion will be owned by the District. The District will lease the expansion to the Fire District for the first 15 years at no cost. Then, commencing 15 years after the effective date of the lease, the Fire District will pay the District a monthly fee of \$250.00 per month, adjusted annually by the increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index as of the effective date of the lease. It is hoped that the foundation can be completed before the snow starts falling, so that the building project can continue during the winter and be completed by spring.

**UPDATE ON ALPINE MEADOWS FUELS REDUCTION PROJECT**

A public meeting was held on November 1<sup>st</sup>, during which the Alpine Meadows Fuels Reduction Project was reviewed with homeowners. The District received grant funding from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy in the amount of \$176,375.00 for the “Alpine Meadows Community Consolidated Fuels Reduction Project”. Additional funding for the project is being provided by AMEA (\$2,500.00), JMA (\$2,500.00) and ASCWD (\$5,000.00). A certified archaeologist was retained to survey the project area to ensure that historical and pre-historical sites were protected during the fuels reduction process. His report has been completed, and everything was approved to proceed. The project has been closed down for the winter, but will restart in the spring with the marking of vegetation for removal. If you have property that is adjacent to the treatment areas and you want to be involved when the forester is marking that area, call the District office with your name and contact information. Every effort will be made to contact you when the time is appropriate.

**CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING PROGRAM**

Christmas trees to be recycled will be collected without charge on your regular garbage service day during the week of January 14th to 18th. Trees must be exposed to view, free of foreign matter (i.e., tinsel, garlands, lights, stands, nails, flocking), and cut into three (3) foot segments to facilitate removal.

**GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE**

The normal garbage collection schedule will be in effect during the holidays.

**REMINDER - LATCH THE DUMPSTERS AFTER DISPOSING OF YOUR GARBAGE**

**Happy Holidays!**

