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Professionally and Compassionately Helping People

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning **Not just during the winter time**

Kent, Wash. - June 28, 2016- When we think of stories about carbon monoxide poisoning, we think of the gas generator that was left too close to the house or the BBQ that was brought into a home during a winter power outage.

The Kent Regional Fire Authority wants our residents and visitors to know that carbon monoxide or CO can be a hazard during the summer as well.

CO is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that is a byproduct of incomplete combustion and many summertime things produce it:

- Motorboats: Engines produce CO that can accumulate in the stern of the boat where people may be sitting.
- Campfires: Wood and coal are major producers of CO. Sitting too close to a fire, especially if you are sitting downwind, can expose you to high levels of CO.
- Generators: Gasoline powered generators used too close to an enclosed structure or tent can accumulate CO.
- BBQs: Using a BBQ too close to a tent or other structure can trap high levels of CO.
- Vehicles: Sitting in a running vehicle - especially if the vehicle is in a garage or other place where exhaust can become trapped, can expose people to CO.

Recognize the signs of carbon monoxide poisoning and call 911:

- Dizziness
- Lightheadedness
- Nausea
- Headache
- Weakness

Watch for these signs and symptoms - especially if more than one person exhibits them.

Help ensure that you and your family have a safe and enjoyable summer by knowing the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning.

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