



## A “Burning” Problem – Combustion Pollutants

### What are Combustion Pollutants?

Gases or very small particles from incomplete burning come from:

- ◆ Outdoor air
- ◆ Tobacco smoke
- ◆ Car or other motor exhaust
- ◆ All fuel-burning appliances
  - Kerosene or propane space heaters
  - Gas furnaces, ranges, water heaters or clothes dryers
  - Wood, charcoal or pellet stoves
  - Fireplaces
- ◆ Hobby activities (welding, woodburning, soldering)
- ◆ Candles

### Why are they a problem?

They can cause:

- ◆ Breathing problems
- ◆ Sore eyes, nose or throat
- ◆ Wheezing
- ◆ More frequent colds or flu
- ◆ Asthma attacks
- ◆ Cancer

### A Special word about a Silent Killer...

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is one gas that can be a “burning” problem. If your home has a CO problem it can be very dangerous. You or your family might feel:

- ◆ Headaches
- ◆ Dizziness
- ◆ Sleepiness
- ◆ Chest tightness or pain
- ◆ Confusion
- ◆ Nauseated

***CO is more dangerous for young children, pregnant women, the elderly, smokers, those with lung problems and people with heart problems.***

### What should I do if I think I have a CO problem?

- ◆ Get fresh air right away!
- ◆ Call your fire department and report your symptoms.
- ◆ Go to the doctor right away and tell your doctor that you think you are sick from CO.

### How do I know if I have other “burning” problems?

Talk to your doctor if you’re sick and answer these questions:

- ◆ Do you feel better when you’re not in your home?
- ◆ Do other people in your home feel sick?
- ◆ Are you feeling sicker and sicker?
- ◆ How often do you get a cold or flu?
- ◆ Are you using fuel burning appliances in your home? (see first list)
- ◆ Has anyone inspected your appliances lately?

### What kinds of things would I see in my house that might mean I have a “burning” problem?

- ◆ Rust, water or soot on, or falling from, a vent or chimney
- ◆ A loose or missing furnace panel
- ◆ Loose bricks or mortar on chimney
- ◆ Unusual dampness on inside of windows
- ◆ Sooting or “Ghosting” (black dust on walls or furniture)
- ◆ Fuel burning appliances that don’t work well

Just because you don’t see a problem doesn’t mean you don’t have a problem. See information on other side.....

