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If You're In Bridgeville, PA, What Is The Likeliness Of Carbon Monoxide Toxic Gas In Your Domicile?

The government has issued a safety advisory recommending the inspection of home central heating systems come fall this season. It urges everyone to take this seriously in consideration of general public safety. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission, or the CPSC, is urging homeowners to have their central heating system inspected annually by a certified heating contractor.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission, or the CPSC, encourages homeowners to have their central heating systems checked and inspected by a qualified heating contractor. This implies that the heating components from the furnace, seals, automatic safety switches, thermostat, and other important mechanical/electrical parts should be free from any damage. Regular reviews of the heating system will ensure minimized occurrences of potential gas leaks or overheating. Not doing so may result in potential hazards like fires or even explosions.

Although checking the ventilation system is not a regular part of the routine inspection by heating contractors, homeowners are encouraged to have the contractor check it out. Doing so would ensure lesser problems with the flue and chimney system in the future. It also entails that the entire central heating system is kept in good running condition at any given point in time.

This would include loose mortar, soot, or even bird nests. Of particular concern is to ensure that carbon monoxide is vented properly outside the house. The flue and chimney systems should be inspected and checked to make sure that the seals are airtight and undamaged.

Known for its infamous reputation as a "silent killer", carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless and odorless gas that can float undetected in harmful quantities inside the home. Hence, there is every reason to avoid having the fumes from going into the house. Compounding the danger is the fact that households might not even be aware that the gas is present.

It is quite imperative that homeowners are aware of the signs of the presence of carbon monoxide fumes in the house. Carbon monoxide poisoning exhibits similar flu-like symptoms like dizziness, nausea, headaches, tiredness, or even breathing problems. Prolonged exposure to carbon monoxide can be fatal. As per CPSC statistics, there have already been as many as 60 recorded deaths due to carbon monoxide poisoning from faulty heating systems alone.

It is extremely important that flue and chimney passageways are checked and inspected, especially during instances of central heating system conversion. Chimneys tend to collect significant amounts of soot and debris over time leading to a potential buildup of harmful gases. A clean sweep of the chimney passage would be a wise choice as long as all potential causes of blockage are removed completely. In addition, the CPSC also recommends that chimney inspections and/or reviews be performed on a yearly basis as part of the maintenance process. This is even more important when homes decide to change the current heating system to a gas fueled one.

There is a high risk from accumulated soot and other debris falling down the chimney resulting in a buildup of harmful exhaust gases. In cases like these, a chimney sweep would be necessary after which the system should be cleared of all existing soot until the passage is clear. As per CPSC recommendation, households intending on changing their existing heating system to a gas type should make chimney inspection an important part of the process. These reviews should then be made on an annual basis.

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