



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Suffolk County Legislator Tom Muratore

325 Middle Country Road, Suite 3

Selden, NY 11784

Contact: Lauren Auerbach

Phone: 631-854-9292

E-mail: lauren.auerbach@suffolkcountyny.gov

DATE: January 12, 2016

**Muratore Reminds Residents-
“January is Carbon Monoxide Awareness Month”**

Selden, NY – Legislator Tom Muratore (R-Ronkonkoma) wants to remind all Suffolk County residents that January is Carbon Monoxide Awareness Month.

Carbon monoxide (CO), an odorless, colorless gas, which can cause sudden illness and death, is produced any time a fossil fuel is burned. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) works with national, state, local, and other partners to raise awareness about CO poisoning and to monitor CO-related illness and death in the United States.

According to the CDC, non-fire-related carbon monoxide poisoning is responsible for approximately 15,000 emergency department visits and nearly 500 deaths annually in the United States. Carbon monoxide is produced when elements such as gas, oil, kerosene, wood or charcoal are burned. When appliances are installed and maintained properly, the CO levels aren't hazardous.

(2)

“Carbon monoxide is often called the ‘silent killer,’ because it cannot be seen and is odorless,” stated Legislator Muratore. “At moderate levels, carbon monoxide can cause headaches, dizziness, nausea and fainting. At high levels, a person could die in a matter of minutes.”

Here are some vital “do’s and don’t’s” to ensure your family’s safety when using carbon monoxide detectors in your home. Information is provided courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control:

- **Do** have your heating system, water heater and any other gas, oil, or coal burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.
- **Do** install a battery-operated or battery back-up CO detector in your home and check or replace the battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall. If the detector sounds leave your home immediately and call 911.
- **Do** seek prompt medical attention if you suspect CO poisoning and are feeling dizzy, light-headed, or nauseous.
- **Don't** use a generator, charcoal grill, camp stove, or other gasoline or charcoal-burning device inside your home, basement, or garage or near a window.
- **Don't** run a car or truck inside a garage attached to your house, even if you leave the door open.
- **Don't** burn anything in a stove or fireplace that isn't vented.
- **Don't** heat your house with a gas oven.

For more information, log onto <http://www.cdc.gov/co/>.