WINTER WISE

Your handbook for a safer Winter.

safetyinfo.ca

TECHNICAL STANDARDS & SAFETY AUTHORITY
TSSA

CO Safety	Home Heating Safety	Fuel & Home Safety	Winter Recreation

WinterWise is a public safety awareness handbook. It's designed to provide you with the information you need to reduce risk and keep your family safe.

With everything from snow, ice, wind and chilling temperatures, winter tends to bring out, or keep in, two types of people – the homey sort, spending more time indoors with family and friends; and the outdoor sort, braving the elements for all the rosy-cheeked excitement they can muster.

Regardless what type of person your are, it's important to be "WinterWise" and help keep you and your family safe while enjoying all that the season has to offer.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS & SAFETY AUTHORITY
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Stay safe and have fun this winter.

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Be "WinterWise"

Although we tend to spend more time indoors during the winter, it is a season that provides great opportunities for outdoor fun and recreation. Whether you're staying warm by the fire, or spending the day on the slopes, be "WinterWise" to help you and your family stay safe.

Carbon Monoxide Safety

Carbon monoxide (CO) exposure is a deadly but common hazard in your home that can happen any time of year – especially when the cold, winter weather settles in, and we depend on things like our furnace or gas fireplace to heat up our homes.

Four Steps to CO Safety

To keep your home safe from CO hazards, follow these four steps:

1. Be aware of the hazard. Carbon monoxide (CO) is an invisible, odourless and poisonous gas produced by common household appliances such as your furnace, fireplace, gas stove, propane heater, kerosene lantern or any other fuel-burning equipment.

2. Eliminate CO at the source. Get your home's fuel-burning appliances and equipment inspected by a certified technician who works for a TSSA-registered heating contractor. To find a TSSA-registered contractor in your area, visit COSafety.ca.

3. Install certified CO alarms. They will warn you of rising CO levels, giving you time to take potentially life-saving action. For proper installation locations, follow manufacturer's instructions or ask your local fire department.

4. Know the symptoms of CO poisoning. They are similar to the flu – nausea, headache, burning eyes, confusion and drowsiness – except there is no fever. If they appear, immediately get everyone, including pets, outside to fresh air and call 911 and/or your local fire department.

Alarm Yourself

In addition to ensuring that your home's fuel-burning equipment has been inspected professionally, your next important line of defence against CO is having properly installed and maintained alarms.

When it comes to alarms, follow these tips:

Install CO alarms:

- On every level of your home
- Near sleeping areas
- According to manufacturer's instructions

NOT near:

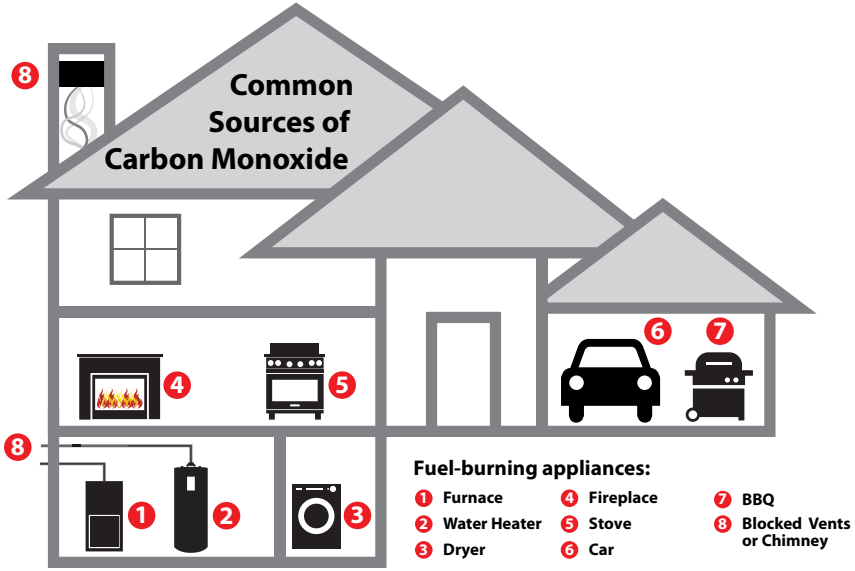
- Windows or vents
- Bathrooms
- Heating or fuel-burning appliances
- Smoke alarms (unless combination alarm)

Checklist

- ☐ Test CO and smoke alarms once a month by pushing the test button
- ☐ Replace batteries once a year, including back-up batteries for plug-in alarms; use fall daylight savings time as a reminder
- ☐ Replace CO alarms when required

CO alarms wear out over time. Check the manufacturer's instructions to find out when your particular unit should be replaced (usually after 7-10 years for CO alarms and 10 years for smoke alarms).

The Council of Canadian Fire Marshals and Fire Commissioners recommends that you know your fire department's phone number and keep it posted by every phone in your home.



You can help prevent carbon monoxide from harming you and your family by:

1. **Getting an annual inspection for all fuel-burning appliances in your home.**
2. **Installing and regularly testing carbon monoxide alarms.**

TAKE ACTION
COSafety.ca

Home Heating Safety

In Canada, we depend on our heating systems to keep us safe and warm when the thermometer plunges and the snow falls, so it is vitally important to check and maintain your furnace and/or fireplace.

An Annual Inspection is a Must

Heating systems that burn fuel such as gas, oil or wood need to be inspected and maintained annually. It is the only way to ensure efficient and safe operation.

For furnaces, while you can and should change filters, the only person qualified to inspect your natural gas, propane or oil furnace is a certified technician who works for a TSSA-registered contractor.

To find a TSSA-registered contractor in your area, visit COSafety.ca.

Remember, furnace and fireplace inspections are your responsibility. If you do not arrange it, it will not get done. Do not forget to have your furnace, fireplace or any fuel-burning appliance inspected annually!

Getting started:

- Visit COSafety.ca to find a TSSA registered contractor near you
- Obtain at least three written estimates specifying the work to be done, who will do the work, as well as start and completion dates
- Determine whether repairs are covered by a warranty; avoid 'fly-by-nighters', especially people who show up at your door offering special deals

Your Home Heating System

To keep your home heating system working the way it should this season; there are actions that you as the owner can take, but there are things that need to be performed by a professional.

Safety Tips

Do-It-Yourself

- Examine the heating system occasionally for signs of deterioration, such as water stains, corrosion or leakage; in forced-air systems, clean the furnace air filters frequently – at least twice a heating season
- Keep the area around the furnace free from dust, lint, rags, paint, drain cleaners and other materials or chemicals that could catch fire or explode if they become too hot
- Make sure warm-air outlets and cold-air outlets are not covered by carpets or blocked by debris
- Make sure walls, other obstructions or new renovations do not block the heating system's air supply

Call a professional

- If your heating system stops working, check the electrical fuse, the switch and the thermostat, and then call for a heating technician
- If snow or ice covers your outdoor regulator, contact your fuel supplier
- Under no circumstances should unqualified people tamper with heating systems; if you have questions or concerns, contact a TSSA-registered heating contractor by visiting COSafety.ca.

Gas Fireplaces – Too Hot for Tots

Every year, children are burned from contact with the glass barrier at the front of a gas fireplace. Statistics show that contact burns – injuries sustained when a part of the body touches a hot object – are the second leading cause of burns in children.

Children have been burned when they have fallen towards the gas fireplace and have pushed up against the hot glass for balance. Serious third-degree burns are the result. Others have touched the glass only for a moment out of curiosity. It takes just two seconds to be seriously burned. Many children have been burned while parents are in the room.

Children are not only at risk for burns when the gas fireplace is in use but before and after use too. The glass barrier can heat up to more than 200°C in about six minutes during use. It takes an average of 45 minutes for the fireplace to cool to a safe temperature after a fire has been extinguished. Some children have even been burned when the fireplace is not in use, by the heat from the ignition light. Children are at risk of a burn injury whenever they are around a gas fireplace.

Young children under five years of age are at an increased risk for getting burned by the glass barrier

Young children under two years, are at an even greater risk for getting burned by the glass barrier

To keep your child safe around gas fireplaces:

- Never leave a young child alone near a gas fireplace; they can be burned before, during, and after use of the fireplace
- Create a barrier around the gas fireplace; safety guards can be installed to keep your child at a safe distance at all times
- Teach children about the dangers of fire; children are fascinated by heat and fire and may not understand the dangers
- Consider not using the fireplace if you have young children less than five years of age, using it only after your children have gone to sleep, or consider turning the unit off completely, including the ignition flame, whenever the unit is not in use
- Be aware of contact burn dangers from irons, curling irons, radiators, older oven doors, wood-burning stoves, and fireplaces

45 MINUTES

It takes an average of 45 minutes for the fireplace to cool to a safe temperature after a fire has been extinguished

Your Wood Stove or Fireplace

This time of year, it can be comforting to curl up beside a crackling fireplace, or gather family and friends around the warmth of a wood stove. Take the necessary steps now to ensure that wood stoves and fireplaces are operating properly and free of potential hazards.

Watch for the warning signs

Look for corrosion or rust on the outer shell of a metal chimney. Watch for bulges or corrosion of the liner as well. Loose bricks, crumbling mortar, dark stains and white powder all indicate problems with a masonry chimney. It should be repaired immediately by a certified heating contractor or mason.

Check stove pipes and connections

Ensure that screws are located at every joint and that each connection is a tight, secure fit. Also, look for signs of dark staining or white powder (also referred to as leeching) at every joint. Rust is a clear sign that it is time to replace the stove pipe.

Check walls for excessive heat

If the wall above your fireplace or wood stove gets very hot, it could be a sign of improper chimney installation and a potential fire hazard.

Protect walls and floors from heat and sparks

Keep combustible objects away from your wood stove or fireplace and always use a properly fitted screen to cover the fireplace opening. Floors and walls should be protected with non-combustible shields.

When in doubt, call an expert

The safest and most practical way to handle the annual maintenance of your chimney, woodstove and fireplace is to contact a WETT* certified Chimney Sweep. It is a relatively small investment for peace of mind.

**Wood Energy Technology Transfer*

Your Portable Space Heater

Electric space heaters are a handy way to add a little extra warmth to one corner of your home without turning up the furnace. However, electric space heaters can be a hazard if used improperly. Follow the manufacturer's instructions and these safety tips to stay safe and warm:

- Never use space heaters to dry flammable items such as clothing or blankets
- Keep all flammable objects at least one metre away from space heaters
- If you use an extension cord, make sure it is the right size and gauge to carry the electrical load being drawn by the space heater
- Never use an electrical space heater in a wet area or any area that can be exposed to water
- Supervise children and pets at all times when a portable space heater is in use

Never use fuel-burning portable space heaters (such as propane or kerosene) in any enclosed space, as it can lead to deadly carbon monoxide exposure

Improper use of space heaters is one of the leading causes of fires and carbon monoxide exposure in homes and cottages.

Fresh Air – Let Your House Breathe

In attempting to conserve energy and reduce our heating costs, we can sometimes make our homes too air tight. In fact, for a house to be healthy, it needs to "breathe". It needs to expel moisture and other gases from inside and take in a constant supply of fresh air from outside.

When a fuel-burning appliance in your home does not get enough fresh air and fails to completely burn its fuel, carbon monoxide is produced.

If ventilation is damaged or blocked, or if you have a powerful kitchen fan, bathroom fan or open hearth fireplace, then carbon monoxide can be drawn back inside the house.

Exhaust fans can compound the problem

Be mindful that the air you exhaust from your home has to be replaced. Powerful exhaust fans in bathrooms and kitchens or open hearth wood-burning fireplaces can actually create a negative pressure inside your home, resulting in a backdraft which will draw exhaust fumes from your furnace, hot water heater or other appliances back into the house.

How can you tell if your home is too air tight?

- The air inside your home is usually stuffy and stale
- Excessive condensation is dripping down your windows (which could also mean your humidifier is set too high, so check that first)
- The pilot light on your gas appliance keeps going out
- A gas flame burns yellow instead of blue (except in the case of a natural gas fireplace)
- The smell of exhaust gases is present in your home; although you cannot smell carbon monoxide, other exhaust gases do have an odour

If you see any of these signs, contact a certified heating contractor or a building ventilation expert to check your home and correct the problem

Consider these solutions:

Air exchanger

If your home is tightly sealed to make it energy efficient, consider investing in a professionally installed air exchange system. It exchanges the air inside your home for fresh outside air every 24 hours, without wasting heat.

Direct feed

When renovating or building, consider installing heating systems and appliances that have a direct feed of outside air for combustion, so they do not draw air from inside the home. The combustion chambers are sealed so they are safer and more energy efficient.

Beat The Silent Killer

In Ontario, over 65% of all carbon monoxide deaths and injuries occur in homes.

Take Action - COSafety.ca

TECHNICAL STANDARDS & SAFETY AUTHORITY TSSA

Fuel and Home Safety

Gasoline is a common fuel around the home. It powers our lawnmowers, chainsaws, snow blowers, All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) and more. But, despite its everyday use, it's important not to underestimate the dangers of gasoline.

Treat Fuel with Care

When running a gas-powered engine:

- Keep a BC Class fire extinguisher handy. Water will only spread the flames of a gasoline-based fire
- Never work or idle in an enclosed space such as a garage, basement or tent
- Allow equipment to cool down for a few minutes before refuelling

Storage

Do not leave gasoline in the basement of your home or in the cottage. Store fuel in approved containers in a detached garage or shed, and well away from heat sources including direct sunlight.

Filling Containers

- Only use fuel containers that have been certified by an accredited certification organization such as the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) International or the Underwriters Laboratories of Canada (ULC)
- Keep well away from sparks or ignition sources
- Fill only to about 90 per cent of capacity to allow some room for expansion
- When filling, keep portable containers on the ground, with the dispensing nozzle in full contact with the container in order to prevent buildup and discharge of static electricity – a possible source of ignition
- When you are finished refilling the container, tighten both the fill and vent caps
- Never leave the container in direct sunlight or in the trunk of a car

Disposal

The best way to dispose of gasoline is to use it up. Small amounts can be left outside to evaporate – leave in an open container away from children and pets. If gasoline must be discarded, be sure to take it to the hazardous waste disposal centre in your area. Never pour gasoline onto the ground, down sewers or into drains.

How are you powering your reno?

You've read the magazines, picked your paint colours and chosen your tile. Yes, it's officially time to start your renovation! But have you chosen the right electrician?

Design and décor are key components of every reno, but so is the safety of you and your family.

Did you know that it's the law in Ontario to hire a Licensed Electrical Contractor (LEC) for any electrical work being done in your home? What does that mean, you ask?

LECs are the only businesses in Ontario legally authorized to do electrical work in your home. They are fully insured, will arrange electrical permits, offer a Certificate of Inspection for you and your insurance company, and are qualified to perform any electrical work you require.

While it can be tempting when you're on a budget to rely on the local handyman, you need to think of the real cost– both in terms of injury or property loss – if something goes wrong. Hiring an LEC will not only bring you peace of mind, it's also likely to save you from problems and inconvenience in the long run.

How do you know if you've hired an LEC?

Always ask for an ESA/ECRA licence number. And if you're using a general contractor or other trade professional who subcontracts the electrical, make sure all electrical work is being completed by an LEC.

Electrical work can be dangerous and is best left to someone with the expertise, equipment and training to do the job right the first time. Not only is it a smart decision, it's also the law.

To locate a Licensed Electrical Contractor near you, or to verify the one you've hired is licensed, visit www.esasafe.com.

Fire Safety in Apartment Buildings

Q: Does your apartment have at least one working smoke alarm? ➔Test monthly and replace batteries annually to ensure it works properly.

Q: Do you have a roll of duct tape? ➔Duct tape is a special tape available from hardware stores. Use it to block smoke from entering your apartment through spaces around your doors, vents and other openings.

Q: Do you know how you are going to escape from your building if there is a fire? ➔Most apartment buildings have at least two exit stairways. Find out where these are and practice using them. Know which floors you can use to cross from one stairway to another.

Q: Have you told your landlord or building manager that you will need help in an emergency? ➔Your apartment number can be added to the fire safety plan, so firefighters will know that you may need to be rescued.

Q: Do you know where the fire alarms are on your floor, and how to pull them? ➔Ask your landlord or building manager where they are and how to use them.

Q: Have you arranged a place outside the building where you will meet everyone you share your apartment with after you leave? ➔Having a meeting place gives you confidence that everyone got out safely.

Q: Do you know the telephone number to call if there is a fire? ➔Keep this telephone number in a place where you can find it fast in an emergency.

Being prepared can help save your life. Talk to your building's management or fire department for more details.

Prevent Cooking Fires

Watch what you heat

Cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home fire injuries in Canada and the U.S., according to the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA). Most of these fires can be prevented by following simple fire safety steps.

Safety Tips

- Never leave cooking unattended; two out of five deaths in home cooking fires occur because the cooking was unattended
- Keep the cooking area clean; always wipe appliances and surfaces after cooking to prevent grease buildup
- Do not store combustible objects near the stove; curtains, potholders, dish towels and food packaging can easily catch fire
- Always turn pot handles inwards; turning handles toward the centre of the stove can prevent pots from being knocked off the stove or pulled down by small children
- Wear short or close-fitting sleeves when cooking; fires can occur when clothing comes in contact with stovetop burners
- Do not overheat cooking oil
- Cooking oil can easily start a fire so never leave hot oil or grease-laden foods unattended; if you must leave the room, even for a short period of time, turn the burner down to simmer, or off completely
- Teach children about safe cooking; young children should be kept at least one metre away from the stove while older family members are cooking and older children should cook only with permission and under the supervision of a grown up

What to do if a cooking fire starts

Pot: put a lid on it. If a pan catches fire, carefully slide a lid over the pan using a high cuff oven mitt and turn off the stove burner. Leave the lid on until completely cool! Do not carry the burning pan to a sink or outside. Movement may permit oxygen to the fire allowing it to ignite, or cause hot grease to spill and cause burns.

Oven or microwave: keep the door shut and turn off the heat. If flames do not go out immediately, call the fire department. Opening the oven or microwave door allows oxygen to the fire and increases the potential for the fire to spread beyond the appliance.

Never pour water on a grease fire. Water causes grease fires to flare and spread.

If a pan catches on fire, put a lid on it using a high cuff oven mitt

Know the emergency number for your fire department. Always call your local fire department before attempting to fight a fire.

Always keep a fire extinguisher at the kitchen door. Know how to use it. Only use it if you have a clear escape route and the fire department has been called first.

Know Your Fire Extinguishers

Not all fire extinguishers are alike. They are designed for specific types of fire. There are three general types of fire extinguishers:

Class A – fires involving ordinary combustibles such as wood, cloth or paper;

Class B – fires involving flammable liquids, greases, gases, etc.; and

Class C – charged electrical equipment fires.

Choose a multi-purpose fire extinguisher to put out all classes of fires.

Elevator and Escalator Safety

Although elevators and escalators are extremely safe, practising proper riding behaviour will greatly reduce the chance of an accident. Make sure you know the facts.

The Inside Scoop on Elevator Rescue

The safest place to be when an elevator stops or if the doors won't open and you are trapped – is inside! An elevator is designed with every possible safety feature in mind.

Remain calm and know that help is on the way

- If the doors won't open and you're stuck between floors, never force the doors open or try to exit; doing so could expose you to serious danger
- Stay inside and signal for help
- You can ring the alarm, or if an emergency phone or "HELP" button is provided, use it for immediate two-way communication to qualified, responsive staff 24-hours a day or to be directed within a 30-second time frame
- Remain calm and know that help is on the way
- A professional recognized by the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) – who is trained to specific rescue standards – will get you safely out of the elevator; such trained specialists know how to safely remove passengers or restart the elevator

Following these safe design and rescue procedures is the surest way to safety.

SO IN THE END, WHERE'S THE SAFEST PLACE TO BE?

›INSIDE THE ELEVATOR!

The Ups and Downs of Elevator Safety

Riding the elevator safely is important for you and your family. Whether you are on the elevator at work, in an apartment building or at the hospital, always practise safe riding behaviour.

Learn more at ElevatorSafetyOntario.ca.

Shop, but Watch Your Step

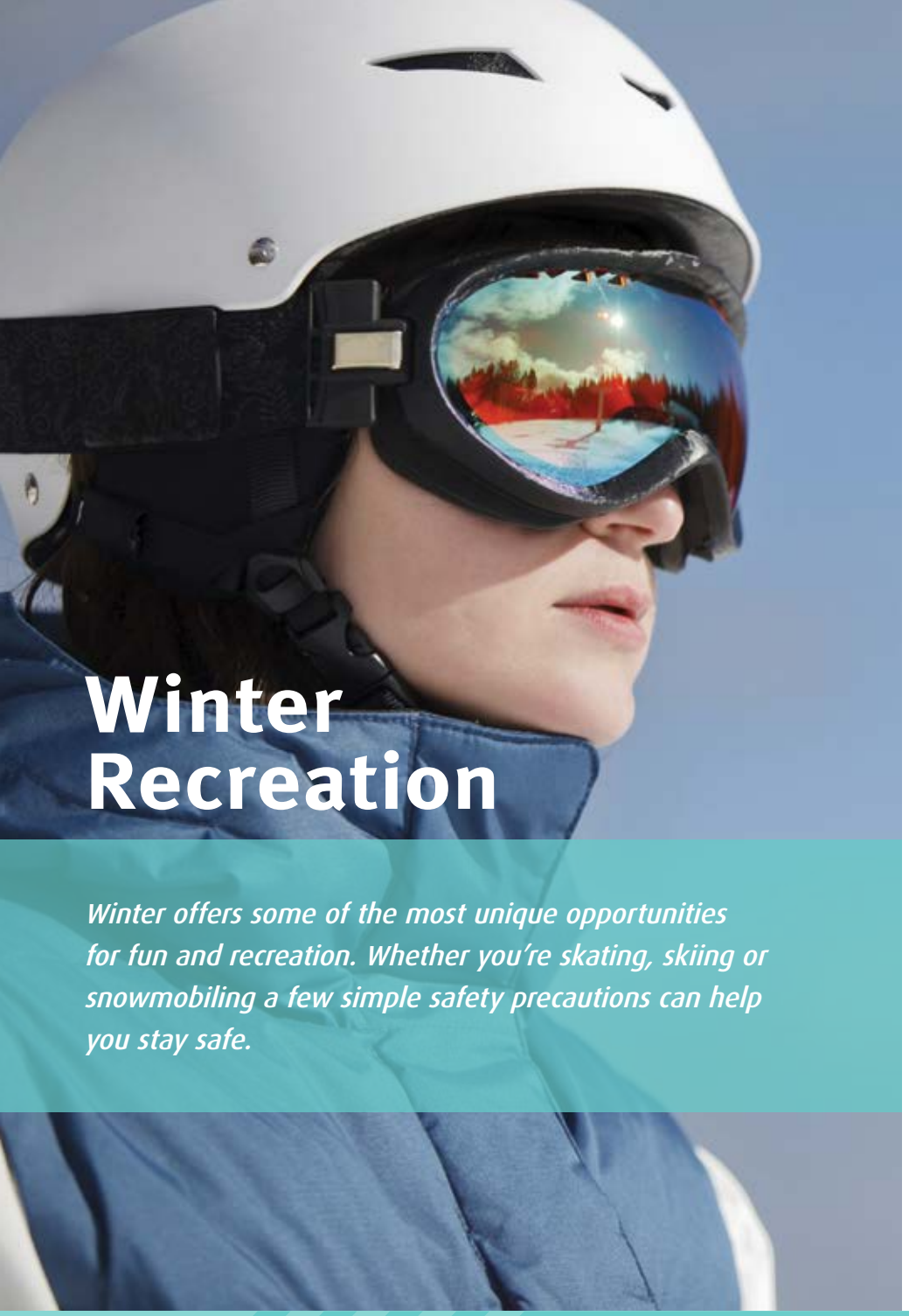
While escalators are extremely safe and reliable, riders can fall and be injured if they are not paying attention, using strollers (which are prohibited), playing around, or overloaded with luggage and bags. Based on incidents reported to TSSA, more than 90 per cent of falls and injuries on escalators are rider-related.

A few simple reminders will keep you on your feet:

- Step on and off with care
- Stand in the centre of the step, not right next to the railing, especially when wearing soft-soled footwear, to avoid entrapment
- Hold onto the handrails
- Attend to children and hold their hand
- Keep loose clothing, such as long coats, scarves, and shoelaces clear of steps and sides
- Keep handbags, knapsacks, shopping bags and parcels away from the handrails
- Do not run up or down escalators
- Move away quickly from exit areas
- If you have luggage or a stroller, use an elevator

It is also wise to take a careful and courteous attitude with you on escalators. Pay extra attention to small children and seniors. As a final safety measure, it is helpful to notice where the escalator's emergency stop buttons are located.

Choose the right device - it will help you get to your destination safely.



Winter Recreation

Winter offers some of the most unique opportunities for fun and recreation. Whether you're skating, skiing or snowmobiling a few simple safety precautions can help you stay safe.

First Time Skiers and Snowboarders

Top five safety tips

Discovering and learning something new can be a little nerve-wracking, but exciting at the same time. Whether you're out on the hills skiing or snowboarding, learn how to be safe.

Here's how:

1 **Dress appropriately:** Dress in layers and avoid wearing cotton. Remember to bring water-resistant gloves or mittens, goggles and sunscreen.

2 **Get the right gear:** Use the rental shop at your local ski hill to get properly fitted boots, bindings, poles and skis/snowboards. Helmets are also often rentable and recommended – just be sure to educate yourself on the benefits and limitations. Check on any mandatory helmet requirements being enforced at the ski hill you're visiting.

3 **Take a lesson:** Gain some good basics. Most ski hills offer lessons with trained and certified ski and snowboard instructors that will help you get comfortable on the slopes.

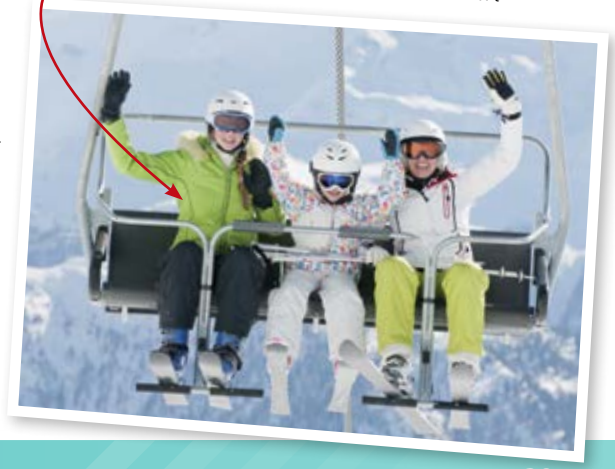
4 **Follow the rules:** Follow the Alpine Responsibility Code and colour-coded symbol trail signs. Your primary safety consideration and obligation is to ski and ride in a controlled and responsible manner.

5 **Ride safe on ski lifts:** Listen to the lift attendants and be aware of all signs during your ski lift ride. If you're unsure, look for instructional posters and ask the attendant for help. For chairlifts, always use the safety bar. And remember – lift the bar only when you've reached the "Raise Bar Here" sign.

So what's the last thing to remember? Know your limits. Skiing and snowboarding can be tiring, so take breaks and pack it in if you feel exhausted.

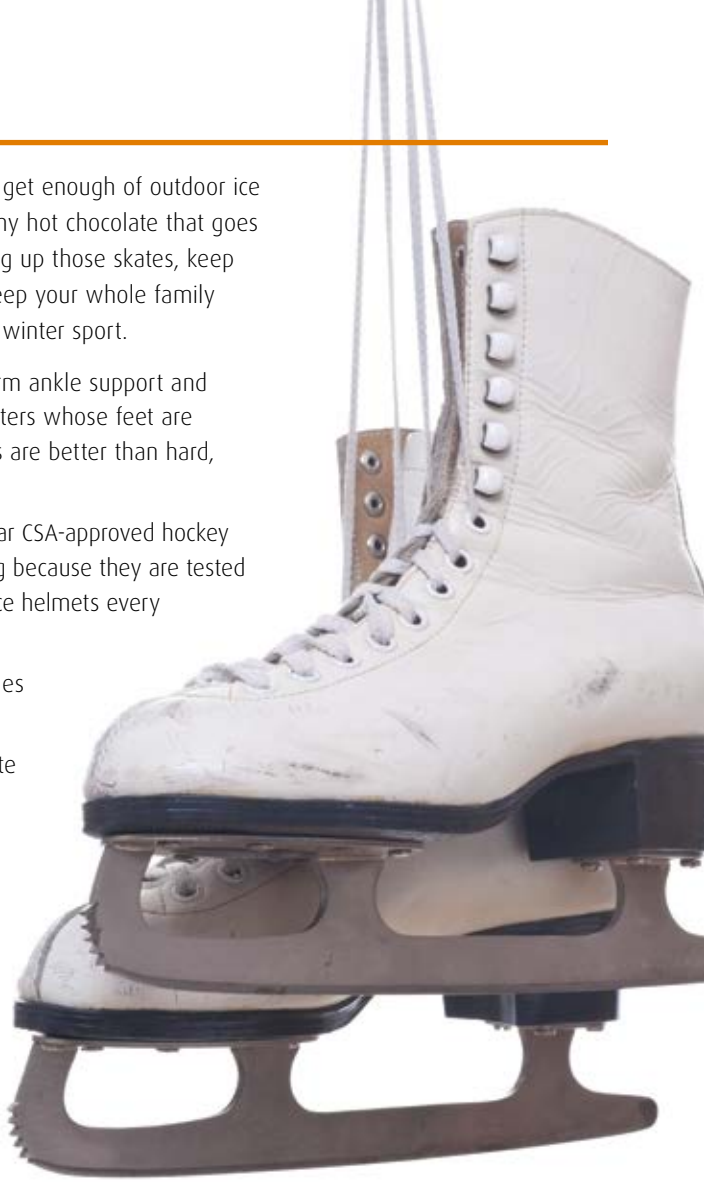
For these and other important safety tips, visit www.safetyinfo.ca. For a guide to various ski resorts across Ontario, visit www.skiontario.ca.

Always use the safety bar on a chairlift



Ice Skating

Canadian families can't get enough of outdoor ice skating – and the yummy hot chocolate that goes with it! But before lacing up those skates, keep these tips in mind to keep your whole family on the safe side of this winter sport.



- Skates should give firm ankle support and fit snugly; for youngsters whose feet are growing, softer boots are better than hard, unyielding ones
- All skaters should wear CSA-approved hockey helmets when skating because they are tested for falls on ice. Replace helmets every five years
- Check that skate blades aren't dull or rusted
- Teach children to skate only in places you know are safe
- Check that the Ice surface is in good shape without bumps, melting or slushy ice
- Check for skating hazards such as pebbles, rocks and branches
- Ice on frozen ponds, rivers, lakes or canals should be at least 15 cm thick and 20 cm for skating parties or games; beware of quick thaws, which can weaken the ice surface
- Teach children to skate with friends – never alone – and always in safe areas, away from traffic and free of obstacles

Prior to Shovelling

- Avoid stimulants like caffeine and nicotine that place extra stress on the heart
- Avoid eating large meals that place demands on the digestive system
- Drink plenty of water; dehydration is an issue in winter as it is in summer
- Dress in several layers; remove a layer as needed
- Extremities, such as the nose, ears, hands and feet need extra attention when it is cold outside; place a scarf or other face protection over the nose/mouth to avoid breathing cold air
- Wear proper footwear; boots with slip-resistant soles or anti-slip cleat attachments can help to minimize the risk of slips and falls
- Warm-up for five-to-ten minutes to get the joints moving and increase blood circulation; march on the spot, climb stairs, or go for a quick walk around the block
- After warm-up, perform gentle stretches for the back (i.e. knees to chest), arms and shoulders (i.e. body hug), and legs (i.e. forward bends from a seated position). This will ensure that your body is ready for action

Shovelling Snow – Safely

Snow removal is often done in a rush to get to work on time, or to finish as fast as possible.

The good news is that 15 minutes of light snow shovelling is considered moderate physical activity. Canada's Physical Activity Guide says we should aim for at least 60 minutes of daily moderate physical activity of some kind.

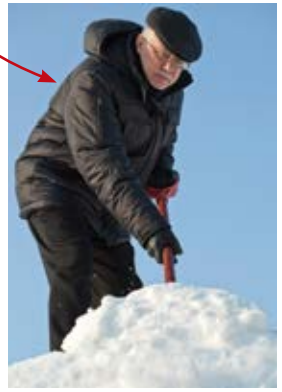
The bad news is that research has shown an increase in the number of fatal heart attacks among individuals shovelling snow following heavy snowfalls. This may be due to the sudden demand that shovelling in cold weather places on an individual's heart and body.

While not everyone who shovels snow will suffer an injury or a heart attack, it can be good exercise when performed correctly and with safety in mind.

Who should think twice about shovelling snow?

- People who have existing health problems, or injuries
- Older individuals
- Anyone who has had a previous heart attack
- People with family or personal history of heart disease, high blood pressure or high cholesterol levels
- Smokers
- People leading a sedentary lifestyle

Older individuals should think twice before they shovel snow



Snowmobile Safety

Use the Signals

Follow the nationally-approved snowmobile hand signals to ensure safety on the trails for everyone.

Practise Zero Alcohol

Alcohol is involved in over 70 per cent of snowmobiling fatalities. Even small amounts of alcohol can impair perception, slow reaction time and limit ability to control your sled. Operating your sled under the influence of alcohol is punishable under the Criminal Code of Canada. If convicted of driving a snowmobile while impaired, you will lose all driving privileges (car, truck, motorcycle, off-road vehicles and snowmobile).

Night Riding

Nine out of ten fatalities occur after dark. Slow down, don't overdrive your headlights. Becoming disoriented or lost is much more likely at night.

Wear outer clothing with reflective trim on the arms, back and helmet. Never ride alone at night. Always dress in your full snowmobiling outfit even if your intended destination is just next-door.

Defensive Snowmobiling

Engine noise and your helmet may impair your hearing, so be extra alert for danger. Never assume what another snowmobiler will do. Your safety is in your own hands, so watch out for a variety of trail conditions.

Crossing Ice

If you do travel across lakes or rivers, know the conditions before you go and only cross following marked stake lines. Carry ice picks and wear a buoyant snowmobile suit in the event an emergency self-rescue needs to be performed.

Reprinted with permission of the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs www.ofsc.on.ca

Understanding Winter Weather

Hypothermia: Dress warmly to prevent hypothermia. Cover up and layer well, making sure that nothing is too tight or left exposed.

Snow Blindness: Ride with good quality, UV-protected sunglasses or a tinted visor.

Wind Chill: Wind-proof outer garments, extra layers and a balaclava will offer some protection, but keep your face shield down to prevent wind burn and to protect your skin and eyes.

TIPS FOR SKI LIFT SAFETY

Can you SPOT EIGHT differences?

Which child is practising safe riding on the ski lift?

tssakidszone.ca

Answers: 1. Safety bar down on one lift 2. Sitting in the middle of the chair 3. No headphones and wearing a helmet 4. Poles correctly held 5. Scarf colour change 6. Pattern change on sleeve 7. Missing ski 8. Mountain goat

CHILD A is practising safe riding on the ski lift, because of answers 1-4

Have You Had Your Furnace Inspected?

Your furnace needs to be inspected annually by a certified heating contractor to maintain peak efficiency and protect your family from the dangers of carbon monoxide.

It is the smart thing to do and it is your responsibility.

Be sure to use a certified heating contractor registered by the Technical Standards and Safety Authority. To ensure a contractor is registered, visit COSafety.ca for confirmation.




Helping you stay safe

The Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) is an innovative, not-for-profit organization dedicated to enhancing public safety. Throughout Ontario, TSSA regulates the safety of: amusement devices; elevators and escalators; ski lifts; fuels; boilers and pressure vessels; operating engineers; and upholstered and stuffed articles. TSSA is there with you each time you get your home furnace inspected, your gas fireplace maintained, and even when you ride an elevator or escalator.

Toll-free: (outside Toronto) 1-877-682-8772
Email: customerservices@tssa.org
Corporate Website: tssa.org
Public Safety Website: safetyinfo.ca

PUTTING PUBLIC SAFETY FIRST - ALWAYS.

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