Home Problems

January and February sees the peak of home heating fires and carbon monoxide poisonings. Here are some tips to avoiding problems in your home.

Heating Equipment:

*Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from furnaces, fireplaces, wood

stoves, or portable space heaters.

- *Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- *Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year.
- *Turn off portable heaters when leaving the room or going to bed.
- *Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into a room.

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning:

- *Replace the battery for your home's CO detector each spring and fall.
- *Do not heat your home with a gas range or oven.
- *Never run a car or truck inside an attached garage.

Smoke Detectors:

- *Test your smoke alarms at least once a month.
- *Change batteries when daylight savings time changes.
- *When a smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside.

*Replace all smoke alarms in your home every 10 years.