

Seasonal Safety

Top tips for a safer Winter



Whether you're staying warm beside the fire or outdoors enjoying some fun in the snow, the safety tips outlined in this brochure will help you and your family stay safe this winter.



TECHNICAL STANDARDS & SAFETY AUTHORITY

The Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) provides a series of seasonal brochures designed to help you and your family stay safe while enjoying all that each season has to offer.

TSSA is an innovative, not-for-profit safety organization dedicated to enhancing public safety.

Throughout Ontario, TSSA regulates the safety of fuels; elevators and escalators; amusement rides; ski lifts; boilers and pressure vessels; operating engineers and upholstered and stuffed articles.

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.



Steps to Carbon Monoxide (CO) Safety

CO exposure is a common, but deadly hazard in your home. Follow these three steps to keep your house safe this winter.

1. 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

2. Ensure your home has certified CO alarms

- They will warn you of rising CO levels, *giving you time to take potentially life-saving action*
- Install them in the correct location – follow manufacturer's instructions or ask your local fire department – *it can be the difference of life and death*

3. 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



Your Home Heating System

It's important to understand your role in maintaining your home heating system.

Do-it-yourself

- Examine the heating system for signs of deterioration, such as water stains, corrosion or leakage
- Clean the furnace air filters in forced-air systems frequently
- Keep the area around the furnace free from materials or chemicals
- Ensure outlets and cold air outlets are not covered
- Make sure walls, 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 gas meter, contact your fuel supplier
- Under no circumstances should an unqualified person tamper with heating systems

Safety on the Slopes

Most ski and snowboard injuries occur when getting on and off the lift. Remembering a few basic guidelines can greatly reduce your risk.

Getting on the lift

- **Look** – Always look over your shoulders for the approaching chair
- **Load** – If riding alone, sit in the middle of the chair
- **Lower** – Lower safety bar as soon as your skis or snowboard leave the snow

Getting off the lift

- **Lift** – Watch for the sign to raise safety bar
- **Stand** – Listen to and obey operator instructions at all times
- **Leave** – Clear unloading area immediately

**TAKE
ACTION**

Get an annual inspection of your fuel-burning appliances by a certified technician.
To find a TSSA-registered contractor in your area visit [COSafety.ca](https://www.cosafety.ca).
Install and regularly test carbon monoxide alarms.