



News Release

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

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Is Your Home Protected from Carbon Monoxide Buildup?

As temperatures cool many homeowners are firing up their furnaces for the winter season. Before doing so, homeowners should check all their flue pipes to ensure they are properly connected. A loose or disconnected flue pipe means carbon monoxide will build up inside the home. Breathing in carbon monoxide (a colorless/odorless gas) can cause a person to pass out or, in extreme cases, cause death.

Since the hail storms of this spring, nearly every roof in Highland Village has been or will be replaced. In fact, City staff has issued nearly 5000 roof replacement permits. Every permit then requires an inspection upon completion of the roofing job. Inspectors are specifically checking to ensure all flue pipes are properly connected. Inspectors have conducted nearly 2500 inspections and about 15% have failed due to this issue.

City inspectors suggest homeowners check flue pipe connections every time an air conditioning filter is changed or at least make it part of the regular A/C maintenance schedule. Installing a carbon monoxide detector is also highly recommended.

Currently the City has 1660 outstanding permits so homeowners who have not yet replaced their roof are urged to talk to their roofing contractor about properly re-installing and connecting ventilation flue pipes. If the roofing contractor does not do this, the homeowner will have to contract with a plumber or HVAC technician to provide the service in order for the project to pass City inspection and ensure the safety of the occupants of the home.