

## Protect your "piece of heaven"

In cottage country, we have to be self-sufficient and look out for our families and neighbours. That's a long-standing cottage tradition.

We come to the cottage to relax and escape day-to-day responsibilities, but we still need to take some simple steps to prepare for emergencies. FOCA supports fire-safe cottages, and cottage communities. That means preventing fire tragedies outside and inside the home.

Take a few minutes to review the information in this special EAlert, and pass it along to everyone you care about at the lake.

## Carbon Monoxide: the "Silent Killer"

How do you protect against a killer you can't see, smell or taste? Carbon monoxide (CO) can come from any of the following:

- a wood or gas fireplace or range
- gas or propane appliances
- an attached garage
- gas or oil water heaters or furnaces

Visit [www.endthesilence.ca](http://www.endthesilence.ca) to hear a first-hand account of the tragedy of the silent killer from John Gignac, a retired firefighter who lost his niece and her family to carbon monoxide poisoning. "They seemed to have it all," says Gignac, "But they did not have a CO alarm in their home."

FOCA supports efforts to **pass Bill 69** to make carbon monoxide alarms mandatory for all Ontario residential buildings. Please let your elected officials know how important this law is to you, your family and your community. You can find links to your municipal and provincial representatives on the [Hot Topics](#) page of the FOCA website. (Look for "**Who's in Charge?**" along the lower left-hand side of the page.)