

Awarded for excellence  
Tenant Participation  
Housing Service  
Housing Repairs  
Council Information Services



**HOUSING &  
CUSTOMER SERVICES**  
Your Questions Answered

# Carbon Monoxide Detector



West Lothian Council Housing & Customer Services

## Carbon Monoxide Detector

### 1. What is Carbon Monoxide?

- Carbon monoxide is a poisonous gas. It has no smell or colour and you can not see it. It is sometimes called the “Silent Killer”.

*Even small amounts of carbon monoxide can be dangerous.*

### 2. What does my Carbon Monoxide detector do?

- Your Carbon Monoxide detector is designed to detect a build up of carbon monoxide in your home. It does not detect heat or flames.
- The detector continuously monitors the air in your home. When it senses a hazardous build-up of carbon monoxide, it sounds its built in alarm.
- Your Carbon Monoxide detector can provide time for you and members of your family to get out of your home before the effects of the gas can have any lasting effects.


*Your Carbon Monoxide detector can save your life.*

### 3. How do I know if the carbon monoxide detector is working properly?

Your carbon monoxide detector has been designed to be as maintenance free as possible.

*To keep your carbon monoxide detector in good working order, you must:*

- **Test your detector weekly.** Do this by pushing, holding and releasing the TEST/RESET button at the front top of the unit. The detector will beep and a red light will flash.
- Vacuum the air vents at the front of the detector occasionally to keep them free of dust.




Never test the detector with car exhaust or intentionally introduce carbon monoxide through other methods. These methods are dangerous and may damage the detector.

**4. Who should look after and maintain my carbon monoxide detector?**

The Council will repair your detector if it is found to be faulty. If you think your carbon monoxide detector is not working properly contact your local Customer Information Service at the offices overleaf.

**5. What should I do if my alarm goes off?**

**If harmful levels of carbon monoxide are detected your detector will sound a continuous alarm.**

- Do not panic. Stay calm. Your safety and that of your family may depend on clear thinking and remembering what you have practised.
  - Open doors and windows to ventilate your home.
  - Turn off fuel-burning appliances such as fires and boilers and turn off your gas supply at the mains.
  - Leave the property leaving doors and windows open.
  - Do not go into the property until the alarm has stopped.
  - Get medical help immediately for anyone suffering the effects of carbon monoxide poisoning.
  - Contact the Council's Out of Hours Emergency Service.
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## **6. What else can I do to protect my family from carbon monoxide?**

- Ensure your home is well ventilated.
- Ensure all chimneys and flues are clean and in good working order.
- Ensure all cookers, heaters and boilers are well maintained, well ventilated and are not confined in enclosed spaces.
- Explain to your family, especially children, what the carbon monoxide detector alarm signal means.
- Decide on a meeting place outside your home where your family should meet if your alarm sounds and ensure that your children know they should go there and wait for you.
- Hold a drill at least every 6 months to make sure that your families, especially children, know how to get out of your home safely.
- Know where to go to call the emergency services outside your home.

# What are the signs of carbon monoxide poisoning?

## Mild Exposure

Slight headache, nausea, and flu-like symptoms.

## Medium Exposure

Severe throbbing headache, drowsiness, fast heart rate, vomiting.

## Extreme Exposure

Unconsciousness, convulsions, heart and breathing failure, death.

## HOUSING & CUSTOMER SERVICES (01506) 776301

**Armadale** CIS Office  
1/3 East Main Street  
Armadale EH48 2QA  
Email:Armadaleaho@westlothian.gov.uk

**Bathgate** CIS Office  
Lindsay House  
Bathgate EH48 ITS  
Email:Bathgateaho@westlothian.gov.uk

**Blackburn** CIS Office  
The Mill Centre  
Blackburn EH47 7LG  
Email:Blackburnaho@westlothian.gov.uk

**Broxburn** CIS Office  
Strathbrock Partnership Centre  
189a West Main Street  
Broxburn EH52 5LH  
Email:Broxburnaho@westlothian.gov.uk

**Fauldhouse** CIS Office  
10 Main Street  
Fauldhouse EH47 9HX  
Email:Fauldhouseaho@westlothian.gov.uk

**Linlithgow** CIS Office  
County Buildings  
Linlithgow EH49 7EZ  
Email:Linlithgowaho@westlothian.gov.uk

**Livingston** CIS Office  
The Ability Centre  
Carmondean  
Livingston EH54 8PT  
Email:Livingstonaho@westlothian.gov.uk

**West Calder** CIS Office  
24-26 Main Street  
West Calder EH55 8DR  
Email:Westcalderaho@westlothian.gov.uk

**Whitburn** CIS Office  
5 East Main Street  
Whitburn EH47 0RA  
Email:Whitburnaho@westlothian.gov.uk

**West Lothian Connected**  
CIS Office  
Almondvale Centre  
Livingston EH54 6NB

### Customers with Special Requirements:



West Lothian  
Council

Text phones offer the opportunity for people with a hearing impairment to access the council.  
**The Text Phone number is 18001 01506 651115**

A loop system is also available in all offices.

Information is available in Braille, tape, large print and community languages. Please contact the Interpretation and Translation Service on 0131 242 8181.

هذه المعلومات متوفرة بلغة بريل وعلى شريط وبخط كبير وبلغات الجالية.  
الرجاء الإتصال بخدمة الترجمة على الهاتف 0131 242 8181

এই তথ্য আপনি ব্রেইল, টেপ, বড় অক্ষরে এবং কমিউনিটির বিভিন্ন ভাষাগুলিতেও পাবেন। অনুগ্রহ করে ইন্টারপ্রেটেশন অ্যান্ড ট্রান্সলেশন সার্ভিসের সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করুন। টেলিঃ 0131 242 8181

這份資料是可以凸字、錄音帶、大字印刷及社區語言的式本提供。請聯絡傳譯及翻譯服務部，電話：0131 242 8181

ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ (ਬ੍ਰੇਲ) ਨੈਤ੍ਰੀਨ ਦੇ ਪੜ੍ਹਣ ਵਾਲੀ ਲਿਪੀ, ਟੇਪ, ਵੱਡੇ ਫਿੰਟ ਅਤੇ ਸਮਾਜ ਦੀਆਂ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। ਸ਼ਿੱਧਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇੰਟਰਪ੍ਰੈਟੇਸ਼ਨ ਅਤੇ ਟਰਾਂਸਲੇਸ਼ਨ ਸਰਵਿਸ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ 0131 242 8181

یہ معلومات بریل (اندھوں کے رسم الخط)، ٹیپ، بڑے حروف کی طباعت اور کمیونٹی میں بولی جانے والی زبانوں میں دستیاب ہے۔  
براؤمبرائی انٹرپرائزنگ اینڈ ٹرانسلیٹنگ سروس سے ٹیلیفون نمبر 0131 242 8181 پر رابطہ قائم کریں۔

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If you have used the Council's complaints procedure and you are still unhappy, you can pass your complaint, within a year, to the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman, 23 Walker Street, Edinburgh, EH3 7HX Tel: 0870 011 5378 Email: enquiries@scottishombudsman.org.uk

[www.westlothian.gov.uk/housing](http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/housing)