



## AUTUMNWATCH SAVING A LITTLE TIME FOR SAFETY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Toronto, ON, November 1, 2007).** It happens every fall: trees burst into colour, the days get colder and we all switch to Daylight Savings Time (DST). Switching the clock is easy: “spring forward, fall back”. But what may not seem easy is making your home as safe as possible. Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) is here to help you be on *AutumnWatch* this season.

While you’re putting away those summer fashions and fishing for your warm woollies, there are a few crucial things to consider before that winter chill blows around the corner.

Take home heating, for example. Before firing up that furnace – be it propane, oil or gas – or using the fireplace for the first time, TSSA wants you to have your fuel-burning devices professionally inspected. Under certain conditions, all such appliances can leak deadly carbon monoxide (CO).

“Having a certified heating technician inspect your fuel-burning appliances is the first line of defence against the silent CO killer,” says TSSA Director of Fuels Safety, John Marshall.

Here are a few starter tips to getting your fuel-burning appliances properly inspected:

- ask a friend or your fuel supplier for recommendations;
- obtain at least three written estimates specifying the work to be done, who will do the work, as well as start and completion dates;
- determine whether repairs are covered by a warranty;
- avoid ‘fly-by-nighters’, especially people who show up at your door offering special deals;
- simply ask the heating technician if he or she is certified with TSSA. If you’re still unsure, call TSSA at 1-877-682-8772 for confirmation; and
- remember, furnace inspections are your responsibility.

Now what about all those combustibles in your garage? Store fuels in approved containers away from heat, and always store propane cylinders outdoors. If you’re transporting cylinders, keep them upright and secured. And while you may be tempted to BBQ in the cozy confines of your garage during those chilly days, skip that deadly idea and grill out in the open. CO can gather in any enclosed area, so be sure of your safety and just flaunt your culinary flair in the great outdoors.

And once last thing on DST. When changing your clock, change your batteries. Your life-saving smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detectors need a little saving too.

For more fall season safety tips, look out for *AutumnWatch* and *Play It Safe in the Kitchen* booklets on TSSA’s safety education website — [www.safetyinfo.ca](http://www.safetyinfo.ca). These helpful resources are part of an annual public safety campaign produced by TSSA and the Ontario Fire Marshal’s (OFM) Public



## Media Release

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Fire Safety Council, which seeks to reduce risk and prevent incidents on important safety topics, such as home heating, appliances and cooking, to name a crucial few.

Let's make it the safest season ever. Be on *AutumnWatch*.

### About TSSA

TSSA is an innovative, self-funded, non-government organization focused on delivering public safety services. It provides not-for-profit regulatory safety services in industry sectors such as fuels, amusement devices, elevating devices, boilers and pressure vessels, operating engineers, ski lifts, and upholstered and stuffed articles. The organization's vision is to be the world leader in public safety services.

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For more information on the Technical Standards and Safety Authority, please visit our website at [www.tssa.org](http://www.tssa.org).