

June 3, 2011

DIRECTIVE:	JOB CORPS INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 10-86
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TO: ALL JOB CORPS NATIONAL OFFICE STAFF
ALL JOB CORPS REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF
ALL JOB CORPS CENTER DIRECTORS
ALL JOB CORPS CENTER OPERATORS
ALL NATIONAL TRAINING AND SUPPORT CONTRACTORS
ALL OUTREACH, ADMISSIONS, AND CTS CONTRACTORS

FROM: EDNA PRIMROSE
National Director
Office of Job Corps

SUBJECT: Best Practices for Preventing Illnesses and Fatalities Caused by Carbon Monoxide Exposure

1. Purpose. To remind Job Corps centers of best practices for preventing illnesses and fatalities caused by exposure to carbon monoxide (CO).
2. Background. In recent years there have been incidents at Job Corps centers in which students and staff were exposed to CO. Following incidents in 2004 and 2006, which resulted in many students being exposed to CO, the Office of Job Corps encouraged centers to install CO detectors in dormitories, and increase efforts to ensure that gas furnaces, hot water heaters, stoves, and other fuel-burning appliances are inspected and properly maintained.

According to the National Center for Environmental Health, during 1999 to 2004, CO poisoning was listed as a contributing cause of death on 16,477 death certificates in the U.S. Already in 2011, Job Corps centers have been affected by severe weather conditions, which increase the risk of CO exposure incidents. In addition to the potential for more severe weather such as hurricanes and tornadoes, there will be an increase in the use of gas-fueled generators and cooking grills. Therefore, it is important for Job Corps centers to review the best practices and remind students of these hazards as they prepare for Summer Break. Guidelines for preventing CO exposure are outlined in Job Corps Information Notice 06-12, Best Practices for Checking Carbon Monoxide Detection (available on the Job Corps Community website, which is accessed via Citrix; click on Notices).

3. Action. Job Corps centers that use gas-fueled appliances, including gas-powered generators during power outages, should continue to follow the preventive measures outlined in Job Corps Information Notice 06-12. Job Corps centers are encouraged to inspect CO detectors and replace batteries as part of an ongoing nationwide effort to prevent CO-related illnesses and fatalities.

Addressees are to ensure that this Information Notice is distributed to all appropriate staff.

4. Expiration Date. Until superseded.

5. Inquiries. Direct all inquiries to Dennis Johnson at (202) 693-2876 or johnson.dennis@dol.gov, or Curtis Massey at (202) 693-3096 or massey.curtis@dol.gov.