

Bee's Knees Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning Warns of Rising Carbon Monoxide Risks as Winter Approaches

September 30, 2025

Vernon, British Columbia - September 30, 2025 -
Bee's Knees Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning today issued an urgent reminder to homeowners about the increased risk of carbon monoxide poisoning during fall and winter months, emphasizing the critical importance of annual furnace maintenance before cold weather sets in.

The Vernon-based company's warning comes as recent data reveals alarming statistics about carbon monoxide-related deaths across North America. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported 1,244 deaths from carbon monoxide poisoning in the United States in 2022, with the majority occurring during fall and winter when furnaces operate most frequently. In Canada, carbon monoxide poisoning causes approximately 300 deaths and 200 hospitalizations annually, according to the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs.

Carbon monoxide, an odorless and colorless gas produced by incomplete combustion, poses particular

dangers when furnaces develop problems such as cracked heat exchangers, dirty burners, or blocked flues. Without regular inspections, these issues can go unnoticed until carbon monoxide levels reach dangerous concentrations, especially in older heating systems.

Kevin Ukkonen, owner of Bees Knees Plumbing and Heating, emphasizes the dual benefits of regular maintenance. "A clean, efficiently burning furnace produces minimal carbon monoxide, but even small cracks or blockages can cause dangerous leaks. Annual inspections prevent costly breakdowns and protect families from this silent hazard," Ukkonen stated.

The Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute recommends annual inspections by certified technicians to examine heat exchangers, ventilation systems, and safety controls. These comprehensive evaluations help ensure safe venting and efficient operation while reducing carbon monoxide risks.

The company's certified technicians perform thorough inspections that include cleaning or replacing air filters, inspecting vents and ducts, testing thermostat accuracy, checking heat exchangers for cracks, examining flue pipes for damage, lubricating moving parts, tightening electrical connections, and verifying all safety devices function properly.

While homeowners can safely perform basic tasks such as replacing filters and clearing debris around furnace areas, detailed inspections and repairs require certified professionals who can detect hidden problems and ensure carbon monoxide detectors function correctly.

Beyond safety concerns, properly maintained furnaces deliver significant energy savings and extended equipment life. Regular maintenance includes changing air filters every one to three months, which ensures proper airflow, prevents overheating, and reduces breakdown risks. Homeowners who schedule fall inspections typically experience lower energy bills, improved comfort levels, and fewer emergency repairs during peak heating season.

The timing of furnace maintenance proves crucial, as booking inspections before the first significant temperature drop ensures service availability and prevents last-minute emergencies when demand peaks. Recent incidents in Quebec, Alberta, and British Columbia underscore the importance of proactive maintenance in preventing carbon monoxide tragedies.

Bee's Knees Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning serves Vernon, Kelowna, Salmon Arm, West Kelowna, and Fintry with comprehensive plumbing, heating, and cooling solutions. The company's team of Red Seal certified technicians provides residential and commercial HVAC services, backed by transparent pricing and

manufacturer warranties on all parts.

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For more information about Bee's Knees Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning, contact the company here:Bee's Knees Plumbing, Heating and Air ConditioningKevin Ukkonen778-560-3395info@beesknees.ca3009 43rd Ave, Vernon, BC V1T 3L4


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Bee's Knees Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning

Bee?s Knees Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning is a trusted full-service contractor serving Kelowna, Vernon, and surrounding Okanagan communities. Expert plumbing and HVAC 24/7 emergency services

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