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What does Colorado do to check for carbon monoxide levels when performing boiler inspections?

While we have always looked for signs of carbon monoxide when conducting boiler inspections, the recent deaths in our state have emphasized the importance of actively assessing carbon monoxide threats. All of the Colorado state inspectors have carbon monoxide detectors that they carry and use to capture readings when they suspect that there is a problem.

The Colorado Boiler Inspection Program has developed the following internal procedure regarding carbon monoxide detection and action limits.

If ambient air carbon monoxide readings in the boiler room, or any other suspected location within the building impacted by the boiler exceeds 50 ppm, the inspector will notify the owner or responsible party that the boiler needs to be examined by a qualified repair company within 7 days to locate the source of carbon monoxide and make necessary repairs.

If ambient air carbon monoxide readings in the boiler room, or any other suspected location within the building impacted by the boiler exceeds 200 ppm, the boiler will be immediately shut down (“red- tagging”) for repairs or replacement. Carbon monoxide at this level can cause severe poisoning symptoms and may be potentially lethal.

If you have additional questions regarding carbon monoxide or red-tagging a boiler, please call our office at 303-318-8484. If your call is urgent and outside office hours (Monday-Friday 8:00AM-4:30PM) please call a boiler repair company to check your boiler for leaks.