



Chimney Cleaning

The purpose of chimney cleaning is to remove soot, blockages and built-up creosote from the chimney liner, firebox, smoke chamber and damper. This cleaning will help create a safer operation of your system during the heating season. It only takes a small accumulation of creosote glazing to create the potential for a chimney fire. Creosote is a highly flammable substance that builds up inside your chimney or liner as a result of burning wood.

Chimney inspections should be scheduled once a year.

To be sure that all of your systems are in working order and operating as they should, it is recommended that homeowners get a annual chimney inspection. Fireplace, stove, furnace and heating appliance systems are important to your home and families safety and not an area to neglect or cut corners on. Don't risk the chance that an undiscovered defect could turn into an expensive repair or worse yet- a chimney fire.

The National Fire Service Protection Association says, "Chimneys, fireplaces, and vents shall be inspected at least once a year for soundness, freedom from deposits, and correct clearances. Cleaning, maintenance, and repairs shall be done if necessary." So, even if you don't use your chimney a whole lot - birds, squirrels, raccoons and other critters may have been using your chimney making it unsafe to use without clearing out the accumulated debris from nesting activity.

The CSIA (Chimney Safety Institute of America) says that fireplaces should be cleaned if 1/8" of sooty buildup is evident inside the chimney and flue system. Any time an appreciable accumulation of soot and creosote occurs it can be enough to fuel a chimney fire that may damage the chimney and even spread to the roof and home.