

Fireplace Safety Tips

We encourage you to practice the following fire safety tips to keep your fireplace or wood stove fire burning safely:

- Have your fireplace, wood stove and chimney cleaned and inspected annually for creosote build-up, obstructions, and cracks in mortar or chimney flues
- Make sure the damper is open
- Clean out ashes from previous wood fires
- Keep the hearth area clear of books, newspapers, decorations, debris and other potentially combustible materials
- Always use a metal mesh fire screen with your fireplace to protect against sparks
- Never use flammable liquids to start a fire
- Only a competent adult should start and supervise a fireplace or wood stove fire
- Use only dry, well-seasoned hardwoods
- Build small fires that burn completely and produce little smoke
- If using manufactured fire logs, only burn one at a time and follow all of the manufactures directions
- Do not use manufactured fire logs as a starter log or with other wood or fuels
- Never burn cardboard, paper, trash, charcoal, plastic, or debris in your fireplace or wood stove
- Never leave any burning fire unattended
- Always supervise kids and pets around a fireplace or wood stove
- Always extinguish your fireplace or wood stove fire before going to bed or leaving the house
- Don't close the damper until the embers have completely stopped burning
- Ensure you have a working smoke and CO alarm!

