

Prepare for Fall with a Chimney Inspection

The official first day of fall is Wednesday, September 23rd this year. It's hard to believe that summer is almost over but there are some things about the fall that I am looking forward to!

I don't know about you, but the cool temperatures of fall make me long for an inviting fire in my fireplace. With fall approaching, and the temperatures cooling rapidly, the season for fires will be here before you know it. Before you light your first fire of the season, it is important to have your chimney inspected to prevent any series issues from arising.



According to the Chimney Safety Institute of America¹, there are a number of reasons to have your chimney inspected and swept every year. These include:

- Blockages in chimneys can cause smoking problems, chimney fires and carbon monoxide poisoning
- Almost all heating appliances, whether they burn gas, oil, wood or coal, rely on the chimney to safely carry toxic gases out of the home
- In 2005, there were 24,500 residential fires originating in chimneys, fireplaces and solid fuel appliances, resulting in 20 deaths and \$126.1 million in property damage

There are also many real life examples that remind us why this is so important. Sandi Benes, a Property Adjuster with Erie Insurance, shared a story of a chimney she had recently inspected. A creosote buildup caused a blaze that destroyed \$23,000 worth of property. How'd it happen? The homeowner decided to clean out his chimney on his own.²

Don't let this happen to you! Erie Insurance suggests that you have your wood fireplace and chimney inspected annually by a professional chimney sweep.³

Juniata Chimney Sweeps can inspect and clean your chimney so that you are ready for those cool fall nights! We service chimneys in Bedford PA, McConnellsburg PA, Fulton County PA, Chambersburg PA, Altoona PA, Somerset PA, Gettysburg PA, Port Royal PA, York PA, Waynesboro PA, State College PA, Cumberland MD, Hagerstown MD, Hancock MD, Clear Spring MD, Frederick MD, Berkley Springs WV, Keyser WV, Ridgeley WV, Martinsburg WV, Fort Ashby WV, Romney WV, and Moorefield WV. Call us today to schedule your inspection and cleaning!

¹ http://www.csia.org/media/annual_chimney_inspections.aspx

² <http://www.eriesense.com/chimney-check-up/#.U-kdCvldXg1>

³ <https://www.erieinsurance.com/home-insurance/home-safety/winter-heating-defense>