

Red River Mutual



LOSS PREVENTION PROGRAM

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WOOD STOVE & FIREPLACE SAFETY



Unless you take certain precautions, the coziness of a warm flame can quickly turn into a house fire and result in personal injury and property damage.

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

- › Have your wood stove or fire place inspected annually by a certified chimney specialist.
- › Have cracked or missing chimney bricks and mortar and corroded flashing repaired.
- › Remove ash buildup regularly and store in a covered metal container.
- › Never restrict air supply to wood stoves or fireplaces as it may cause the buildup of creosote and increase risk of a chimney fire.
- › Keep the hearth free of debris and materials that may catch fire easily.

FUEL BURNING

- › Burn only dry, well-seasoned wood to avoid creosote buildup in stovepipes and chimneys.
- › Never use flammable liquids to start a fire as it can get out of control quickly.
- › Make small fires that burn completely and produce less smoke.
- › Never leave a fire unattended. Ensure it is extinguished before going to bed or leaving the house.

FIRE PROTECTION

- › Install smoke detectors on every floor of your home. Change and test batteries at least twice a year.
- › Keep a fire extinguisher close by and make sure everyone in your household knows how to use it in the event of fire.

