



REDUCING RISK WOOD STOVE SAFETY

Proper installation is the first step in using your wood stove. We recommend that you have a professional technician install your wood stove. Whether you hire someone or do it yourself, always follow the manufacturer installation instructions and use the proper tools, parts and protective gear.

Keep in mind...

Sadly, there were 357,000 home fires reported in the U.S. in 2017. Of those fires, 2,630 people were killed. These fires caused \$2.3 billion in direct property damage. While the National Fire Protection Association reports that damage totals have declined since the late 1970's, there are steps all of us can take to help continue the downward trend.

Below is some information and guidelines on Fire Safety Practices for wood stoves that will help you in keeping your home safe during winter heating months. Please call your local code enforcement officer for additional information, and stay safe.

Use the following checklist as a guide to ensuring proper installation and maintenance.

- The stovepipe is 18 inches from all walls and ceilings.
 - The stovepipe thimble is 12 inches from all combustible materials, including walls.
 - The horizontal portion of the stovepipe has an upward pitch of $\frac{1}{4}$ inches per foot.
 - The stovepipe joints are fastened with 3 or more sheet metal screws.
 - The stovepipe is no longer than 10 feet with less than two elbows.
 - The stove is the only heating device connected to the chimney.
 - The stove is 36 or more inches from any combustible material on each side.
 - The stove's legs are at least 4 inches long.
 - The stove is placed on a certified stove board or masonry hearth.
 - The stove board extends at least 18 inches on all sides.
 - The chimney has a clay thimble or prefabricated metal collar where the stovepipe goes into the chimney.
 - There are no cracks or signs of overheating or damaged parts.
 - There are no corroded or heat damaged stovepipes.
 - There are no cracks in the chimney liner, and no creosote accumulation.
- Also remember the following:**
- Burn only dry, well seasoned hardwoods.
 - Store ashes in an approved airtight metal container on a non-combustible surface.
 - Check your stovepipes monthly and keep them clean.
 - Clean your chimney at least once each heating season, more if necessary.



315.788.4730
800.847.7030



315.788.6359



www.ncins.com



P.O. Box 6540
Watertown, N.Y. 13601