



TOWN OF PETAWAWA FIRE DEPARTMENT

HEADQUARTERS

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The Town of Petawawa Fire department has been experiencing an increased number of chimney fires in the past month. The Fire Department would like to remind residences of the importance of having your wood burning appliance and chimney maintained on a regular bases by a professional.

Here are some safety tips that can help keep you and your family safe:

1. Keep at least one meter clearance around your fire place or wood stove so other materials don't overheat and catch fire.
2. Don't overload your stove. This can cause creosote to build in your chimney and can cause a fire hazard.
3. Do not use flammable materials such as wrapping papers or flammable liquids. This can cause instant fireballs that can cause flammable materials to build up in your chimney and stove pipe.
4. When cleaning out the ashes from your fire place or stove make sure to place ashes into a metal container to discard them. Do not place ashes in a green bin or a cardboard box that can ignite. It takes up to three days for ashes to cool.

5. Make sure you have working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in your home. It is the law and you must have working smoke alarms on each level and adjacent to the bedrooms. Residence are required to have working carbon monoxide alarms adjacent to bedrooms and for added safety it's recommended that carbon monoxide alarms be installed on every level of your home. Carbon monoxide alarms are only required in homes that heat with fuel fired appliance.
6. Check you alarms monthly and replace the batteries when required.
7. Have a family escape plan and practice it.

For more information you can contact the Town of Petawawa Fire Department at 613-687-5536 or contact your local fire dept.

Stay safe and stay warm this winter.