

IMPORTANT!

**DO NOT
LEAVE FIREPLACE
ASH AND EMBER
CONTAINERS INSIDE
THE HOME.**

**WET THE REMENANTS
AND STORE IN A LID
COVERED METAL
CONTAINER
OUTSIDE AND AWAY
FROM ANY STRUCTURE**

**Place and maintain
smoke and CO alarms
on all levels of your
home**

**A FIRE SAFETY MESSAGE FROM
THE NEW JERSEY STATE FIRE MARSHAL
AND YOUR LOCAL FIRE OFFICIAL**



www.state.nj.us/dca/divisions/dfs/



Richard E. Constable III
Commissioner



Chris Christie
Governor

New Jersey Division
Of Fire Safety



FIRE SAFETY FACTS

**FIREPLACE AND
CHIMNEY SAFETY**





FIREPLACE AND CHIMNEY SAFETY

According to national statistics more than a third of Americans still prefer the warm, cozy heat of a wood burning fireplace.

However, statistics show they account for nearly the same amount of residential fires in our state's rural areas each year.*

**National Fire Incident Reporting data*



New fireplaces should meet a set of requirements by an independent consumer testing

organization. Both new fireplaces and existing ones need a local building permit and inspection by the municipality to make certain it complies with current building and fire code requirements.



Fireplaces and chimneys also require a high degree of maintenance including seasonal cleaning by a licensed chimney sweep to clean the buildup of creosote, a black tar-like, wood burning by-product which can cause a chimney fire.

Use the three feet rule by keeping children, pets and burnables at least three feet away from any heat source.



DO NOT use lighter fluid or flammable liquid to light a fire.

Use only seasoned wood stacked in cords away from any structure.

Check that the damper is open before lighting the fire. Failure to do so can result in an accumulation of smoke and carbon monoxide within the home.

Do not close the damper before the fire has died out and the embers are cold.

Use a tempered glass fireplace screen to prevent popping sparks and flying embers from landing on the floor.

Check that the damper is open before lighting the fire.