

Northborough Fire Department in Service Training

Lesson 11- Chimney Fires

Objective

Discuss the challenges that chimney fires present. Review chimney fire equipment and tactics.

Equipment needed

Chimney fire bucket/equipment

Important points to discuss

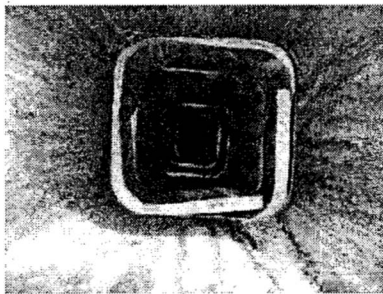
Chimney fires should be handled as a structure fire as these fires can quickly spread from the chimney into the structure. Many homes in our community have wood burning stoves, fire places, and pellet stoves. Many of these are either poorly maintained and or installed without proper permits and inspections. Improperly installed devices and poorly maintained chimneys continue to be a leading cause of structure fires.

Operation

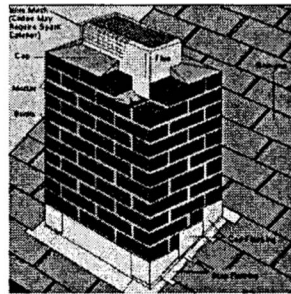
Discuss:

Types of Chimneys

Lined and unlined – Older chimneys may or may not have a flue liner, they can simply be made of brick or stone. Some may have a metal liner within them that may be directly connected to a wood stove or wood stove insert. Modern chimneys are typically constructed with a clay liner type of flue that is surrounded by brick. Look around at the many different types of chimneys you see during your day. Look at their condition, are they cracked, leaning away from the structure, do they look safe? What are they constructed of?



A cracked clay flue liner



Typical modern construction



Metal liner