

	Fire Department: Preventive notice - Chimney fires
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FIRE DEPARTMENT: Preventive notice - Chimney fires

Municipality of Pontiac

November 2, 2020 – 2:00 p.m.

What you should know:

- The Municipality's Fire Department is issuing a preventive notice in order to reduce the fire risks related to chimney fires.
- Before using your chimney and stove have them properly cleaned and inspected at least once per year.
- Check it several times throughout the season to make sure it is still in good working order.
- Burn only dry seasoned wood. Watch for signs of a chimney fire.
- There are two types of chimney fires, free burning and slow burning.
 - Free burning fires are easier to detect because you will hear a loud roar like a freight train is running through your living room. Billows of smoke and flames will shoot out of your chimney.
 - Slow burning fires are silently destructive. They burn quietly at high temperatures for a long period of time. While slow burning fires appear less dangerous, the high temperatures can cause serious damage to your chimney and risk spreading fire to other parts of your home.
- As soon as you suspect a chimney fire, evacuate the building and call the fire department. It is always a good idea to have firefighters on their way in case things get worse.
- Place a wet rag on the embers and close all openings into the wood stove. This deprives the fire of oxygen and the steam may eliminate smaller fires altogether, or just lessen the flames in something larger.

Where to inquire:

- Municipality of Pontiac's Website: www.municipalitepontiac.com;
- Municipality of Pontiac's Facebook account: www.facebook.com/pontiacmun.