



## Firewood Safety & Storage

With the fall and winter burning seasons fast approaching, we want to review proper safety and storage of firewood.

1. Do not store firewood against the side of the building. With the reduction of airflow, moisture can build up against the building and damage framing and siding, thereby allowing habitat for vermin and insects that can cause additional damage. Also, impact damage caused from the careless stacking of firewood against the siding.
2. Don't wrap firewood with tarps. Only cover the top surface of the firewood. In order for the firewood to dry there must be proper air circulation. A fresh cut and stacked cord of firewood (cord is 4' high x 4' wide x 8' long) with proper air circulation, will lose approx. 1 gallon of water a day.
3. Firewood should be stored 30' away from all buildings. This is for fire protection and helps keep the mice etc. away from the home.
4. NEVER stack firewood higher than 4' unless it is mechanically captured and controlled as not to allow tipping. Firewood stacks have been known to fall on children climbing on them causing serious injury and death.
5. Firewood should be thoroughly dried and seasoned for at least 2 years. This helps insure that the firewood is dry when burned and does not contribute to creosote buildup in fireplaces. Creosote is a leading contributor to chimney fires in homes.

There is nothing like enjoying a warm fire in the fireplace when it gets cold outside. Being careful about firewood will help keep the fires burning and adding to the enjoyment by all.

For additional information, or to schedule an inspection, please call Jeff @ (608) 434-0790

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