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MCHD HEALTH BLOG

The greatest wealth of a community is the health of the people.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
MORGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.



FIREPLACE SAFETY

In the cold winter months, there's nothing more comforting than sitting by a warm, cozy fireplace. If you live in or visit one of the many homes and buildings that use a fireplace or wood stove, it's important to know basic fireplace and wood stove safety. Follow these heating safety tips to help keep your home fire safe this winter, from the U.S. Fire Administration:

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from your fireplace or wood stove.
- Do not burn paper in your fireplace or wood stove.
- Put the fire out before you go to sleep or leave your home.
- Have your chimney inspected and cleaned each year by a professional.
- Put ashes in a metal container with a lid. Place the container outside at least 10 feet from your home.
- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of your fireplace to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out.
- If you have a wood stove, make sure it has been tested by a qualified testing laboratory. Keep the doors closed unless loading or stoking the live fire.

To learn more about how to prevent fires in your home this winter, visit www.usfa.fema.gov.