



## City of McKinney News Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### McKinney Fire Department recommends annual chimney inspections this year and every year

McKINNEY, Texas (Jan. 30, 2017) – The McKinney Fire Department (MFD) along with the Chimney Safety Institute of America (CSIA) reminds residents to schedule an annual chimney safety inspection to identify potential hazards for cracks, creosote buildup or other obstructions. Each of these diminishes the functionality of the system and creates an environment where chimney fires or carbon monoxide intrusion is likely.

“Having a professional inspect and clean your chimney and performing preventative maintenance is the most important part of maintaining your fireplace and chimney,” said Fire Marshal Mike Smith. “Over time, the chimney can become coated with soot and creosote, which are byproducts of fires that aren’t burning efficiently.”

View [this safety video](#) and follow the recommended safety tips that should be followed when igniting your chimney.

- Never burn garbage or painted/treated wood, only dry fire wood
- Open damper fully before lighting a fire
- Keep the fire to the back of the fireplace
- Always use a spark screen or glass doors
- Follow the manufacturer’s instructions when burning artificial logs
- Keep a fire extinguisher handy
- Make sure smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors are working properly

Maintaining your chimney regularly will ensure that it operates in the safest, most efficient manner possible. Additional information can be obtained by visiting [www.mckinneyfire.org](http://www.mckinneyfire.org) or <http://www.csia.org/chimneyfires.html>.

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#### About McKinney

McKinney, Texas, is unique by nature. As one of the fastest growing cities in America, McKinney has a current population of more than 162,000. The city was #1 on the list of Best Places to Live in America in 2014, published by *Money Magazine*. Established in 1848, the city is located 30 miles north of Dallas and is the county seat of Collin County. McKinney offers award-winning schools, a vibrant historic downtown, diverse housing options, a robust economy and a uniquely beautiful natural setting, with rolling hills and lush trees. Visit the city’s website at [www.mckinneytexas.org](http://www.mckinneytexas.org).

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