

## How a Chimney Inspection Benefits You

A chimney inspection helps you keep your house and loved ones safe. Here are a few ways you benefit from chimney inspection:

- Making sure chimneys that are supposed to be OK really are. Gas and oil flues for example: When there's a problem they get even sootier than wood flues.
- Making sure the inside of the chimney is as good as the outside. Internal problems aren't so evident. Sometimes it takes specialty equipment, such as an internal video inspection system. Here a few things that can be wrong:
  - Misaligned tiles leave openings inside the chimney.
  - Missing mortar- very common- also leaves gaps in the flue.
  - Cracks in the tiles- usually not easily visible.

If the inside of your chimney isn't tight, creosote leaks to the outside of the liner. At best it's a danger laying in wait; at worst there's a fire outside of the flue-liner only one un-insulated brick from the combustible framing of your home!

Blocked chimneys are a major cause of high carbon monoxide levels in homes, causing headache, flu-like symptoms, general malaise, poor performance in school or at work, and even death. In fact, CO poisoning affects more people each year than by chimney fires.

- Before you buy a house is the best time to find out about problems. Don't rely on home inspectors as they have limited capabilities and knowledge where chimneys are concerned. Insist on having an internal video inspection by the chimney professional you personally choose.

No matter how careful you are, you can't guarantee everything is perfect. But you can increase your chances of avoiding problems by thorough inspections. Call a CSIA Certified Sweep today for an in-depth inspection to increase your safety and peace of mind.

For a ***FREE REPORT*** on potential hazards and why chimney fires and carbon monoxide poisoning occurs and how to choose the best chimney technician for your job call 410-392-4596.