Article published on April 30th 2012 | Home Improvement

The main purpose of chimneys in Vancouver homes is to funnel gases produced when using the fireplace out of the house. When chimneys arenâ€™t cleaned, blockage might ensue, which would then cause a number of problemsâ€”most of them hazardous to health. This is why it is important to regularly check, clean, and maintain the chimney system of your home.

Blocked chimneys are primarily caused by a buildup of creosote on the insides of the chimney system. When youâ€™re burning wood in your fireplace, the gases that are generated by this activity escape through the chimney. Since the chimney is colder than the fireplace, condensation will take place, which causes the particles from the gases to stick to the insides of the chimney. When this buildup grows larger and larger, it can eventually block your chimney.

Fire is one of the most common results of a blocked chimney because creosote, the compound that builds up on the insides of your chimney, is basically made up of the stuff you burned and is very flammable. Sometimes, chimney fires burn slowly, making them hard to detect, and in other times, the chimney just explodes from all the creosote that caught fire. Would you want something like this to happen in your home where your loved ones and all material belongings are in?

Another common danger that is associated with blocked chimneys is carbon monoxide poisoning. This particular gas is emitted when youâ€™re burning something in the fireplace and is supposed to escape the house via the chimney. When blocked, this odorless, tasteless gas induces symptoms like headaches, shortness of breath, nausea, vomiting, loss of consciousness and eventually, death.

Aside from carbon monoxide, there are also other fumes that are released and trapped in the house when you use the fireplace while the chimney is blocked. Most of these fumes are very dangerous to health. If you detect any strange smells, contact experts of repairs for chimney Vancouver residents have come to trust immediately.

Apart from the regular inspection and maintenance that your chimney should receive, you should also watch out for any signs that might indicate problems in the system. These include debris coming out of the chimney, water streaks, and excessive soot, or strange smells coming from the chimney or fireplace. If you detect any of these, call an expert of repairs for chimney Vancouver homeowners can rely on.

If the problems persist, they may not be due to a blockage but are caused by inefficient design. In such cases, you should contact an expert on roofing Vancouver has to offer. For more information, you can visit ehow.com/info_7767624_dangers-blocked-chimneys.html or wisegeek.com/what-are-the-most-common-chimney-problems.htm.

Article Source:
http://www.articleside.com/home-improvement-articles/effects-of-blocked-chimneys-in-vancouver-homes.htm - Article Side

Linda Wise - About Author:
For more details, search a chimney Vancouver and a roofing Vancouver in Google for related

information.

Article Keywords:
chimney vancouver, roofing Vancouver

You can find more free articles on Article Side. Sign up today and share your knowledge to the community! It is completely FREE!