

# CHIMNEY FIRES

## PURPOSE

To establish safe operating procedures for incidents involving chimney fires.

## PROCEDURE

1. Conduct a thorough 360° walk-around.
2. Check for fire/smoke showing from any area(s) other than the chimney and check immediate exterior exposures upon arrival.
3. Make sure residence is evacuated.
4. Close off air to fireplace if possible.
5. Place salvage tub or ash blanket near the fireplace opening.
6. Consider a charged hose line (don't bring in unless necessary).
7. Discharge a small amount from water extinguisher up into the flue.
8. Consider removing any fuels in the firebox, being careful not to cause further interior fire/smoke damage.
9. Have a firefighter monitor the progress from the roof or ladder.
10. Consider the use of a chimney nozzle.
11. Check the attic and around the chimney for signs of extension.

## KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Use a thermal camera, if available, to check for extension.
- If extension is present, consider Structure fire response.
- Evaluate roof and chimney conditions for safety.
- Move insulation and stored items in the attic away from the flue.
- Prepare equipment in case fire extends to attic:
  - Positive pressure fans.
  - Piercing and/or distributor nozzles (chimney nozzle).
  - Salvage tarps and pike poles.
- If fire is contained to the flue and all adjacent areas have been inspected, consider no other action.
- See Operational Guideline, *Attic Fires*.