

# Stay Warm & **SAFE**



## PREVENT HEATING EQUIPMENT FIRES

### WHAT'S THE RISK?

Heating equipment fires account for **1 in 10** home fires.

Heating equipment is the **second leading** cause of home fires.

In 29% of home heating fires, the cause is **lack of routine maintenance** of heating equipment.

The average dollar loss per heating equipment fire is **\$53,000**.

### The leading causes of heating equipment fires are:

1. woodstoves
2. fireplace/fireplace inserts
3. chimneys.

### How do I prevent a heating fire?

- ❖ Have your heating system and chimneys inspected and cleaned annually by a qualified service technician.
- ❖ Ensure all outside heating vents are not blocked.
- ❖ Ensure woodstoves, fireplaces and fireplace inserts are installed by a qualified technician according to manufacturer's instructions.
- ❖ Always use a fire screen around the fireplace.
- ❖ Allow ashes from your woodstove or fireplace to cool before emptying them into a metal container with a tight-fitting lid. Keep the container outside.



All homes with a fuel-burning appliance, fireplace or attached garage must have a working carbon monoxide alarm installed on every floor and outside all sleeping areas.

Statistics for Ontario between 2010-2014.  
Provided by the Office of the Fire Marshal  
and Emergency Management