TOLEDO FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

C-15 Chimney Fires

Emergency Manual

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Policy/Procedure

1. Fire personnel shall use tarps draped over the mantle and fireplace to help keep sparks out of the room and off the carpet. Fire personnel shall use a tarp to cover the floor as well.

2. Fire personnel shall first utilize a CO2 or dry chemical extinguisher in the bottom of the chimney inserted behind the cover to knock out the fire in the fireplace. They shall cover or shut down air intake to eliminate O2 content.

3. Some fires (creosote fires in chimney or flue liner) may require the operation of an attack line from the top of the chimney to extinguish.

4. Incident commanders shall remain aware that chimney fires tend to rekindle. Walls along the path of the chimney shall be examined for hidden fire. The attic or cockloft and the basement or crawl space shall also be examined for fire extension

5. Heat sensors or a thermal imaging camera (TIC) shall be utilized. If a wall or floor feels hot to the touch, firefighters shall open it. When doubt exists whether a fire has been completely extinguished firefighters shall remain on-scene, in-service, for a reasonable time, to ensure there will not be a rekindle of fire.

See Also:

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