



# NORTHERN NECK INSURANCE COMPANY

*Insuring Families from the Bay to the Blue Ridge since 1896.*

## WHEN IT'S COLD OUTSIDE, THESE TIPS WILL KEEP YOU SAFE AND WARM INSIDE.

- Burn seasoned wood only. Never burn rubbish or treated lumber.
- Never use flammable liquid to start a fire.
- Never leave a fireplace fire unattended. Do not leave children and pets alone by the fire.
- Dispose of cooled ashes in a tightly sealed, metal container away from buildings. Never put ashes in your garbage.
- Check your chimney flue frequently. If creosote is  $\frac{1}{4}$ " or more thick, clean it right away. Burn a hot, roaring fire for 15 – 30 minutes everyday during heating season to reduce creosote build-up.
- Contain sparks. Always use a fire screen. Top chimneys with spark guards.
- Use smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. Check batteries regularly. Never disable these devices.
- Be sure wood stoves, inserts and dampers are in working order. Follow the manufacturer's guidelines.
- Keep fire extinguishers handy throughout the house.
- Keep your fire department's phone number by your phone.

