

RestoPros of Intown Atlanta Reveals Why Most Fireplace Fires Trace Back to Neglected Equipment

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ATLANTA, GA - November 09, 2026 -
As cold weather approaches and households prepare to light their fireplaces, RestoPros of Intown Atlanta is reminding homeowners that most fireplace and chimney fires do not begin with a single careless moment. Instead, they most often start from creosote buildup and equipment that was never cleaned or inspected.

Data from the National Fire Protection Association shows there are roughly 48,530 home heating fires each year, with fireplaces and chimneys involved in about 30 percent of them. A quarter of those incidents stem from uncleaned equipment, and the majority occur during the winter months of December through February. The pattern points to a preventable cause rather than simple bad luck.

Creosote, a flammable residue that accumulates inside the chimney flue as wood burns, sits at the center of the problem. Over time, layers of this material can ignite and spread fire into the structure of a home. Gradual buildup, rather than a one-time mistake, is what turns a routine fire into a hazard.

According to RestoPros of Intown Atlanta, the foundation of fireplace safety and how to keep your home safe rests on two basic habits. The first is an annual professional inspection and cleaning before the heating season begins. The second is keeping flammable items such as furniture, curtains, and holiday decorations a safe distance from the firebox at all times.

"Homeowners often assume a fire means something went dramatically wrong in a single instant, but in most cases the warning signs built up over several seasons," said Averi Magnuson, spokesperson for RestoPros of Intown Atlanta. "Creosote accumulates quietly, and a damper that no longer works correctly can go unnoticed. An annual inspection catches those conditions before they become an emergency."

Warning signs that a chimney needs servicing include smoky odors, smoke spilling back into the room, visible creosote deposits, and dampers that stick or fail to open and close properly. Different fireplace types carry different risks as well. Gas units, for example, require venting checks to guard against carbon monoxide buildup, a colorless and odorless gas that can be deadly when a flue is blocked.

When prevention falls short, response time becomes critical. RestoPros of Intown Atlanta provides fire and smoke damage restoration services in Atlanta around the clock, with certified technicians who handle smoke odor removal and structural repairs. The company works directly with insurance providers to streamline the claims process, and its fire damage restoration Atlanta GA team operates every day of the year.

"The faster damage is addressed, the more of a home can be saved," Magnuson added. "That is why a 24-hour response matters during the coldest months, when heating fires are most likely to happen."

Homeowners are encouraged to schedule a chimney inspection before cold weather fully sets in, giving technicians time to clear buildup and confirm equipment is operating safely.

RestoPros of Intown Atlanta is a restoration service provider specializing in water damage, fire and smoke damage, mold remediation, and storm damage. Serving Atlanta, Buckhead, College Park, Douglasville, and Smyrna, the company brings a combined 30 years of industry experience, follows IICRC guidelines, and offers 24/7 emergency response to residential and commercial clients.

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RestoPros of Intown Atlanta

RestoPros of Intown Atlanta delivers 24/7 emergency water, mold, and fire restoration services across Atlanta, GA. We support both residential and commercial clients with fast, reliable service and are proud to be locally owned and family operated.

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