

**BURLINGTON TWP. FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE #33**

**CHIMNEY FIRE**

**Purpose:** That all personnel know the guidelines when dispatched to a chimney fire.

**Scope:** For all personnel to know which apparatus respond and actions to take during a chimney fire.

**Apparatus Response:**

1. 15-21
2. 15-22
3. 15-31
4. Unit requested by I.C.

**Upon arrival at scene Establish Incident Command:**

1. If no officer is available, the most senior Firefighter will be in charge as I.C. If there is a question of seniority, the driver of the engine will be the I.C.
2. Upon command of the I.C. all units will switch to the fire incident channel assigned by Central Dispatch. I.C. will request a fire incident channel if one is not assigned by Central Dispatch.
3. I.C. is to give a scene size up report and request any additional resources that are needed.
4. If/When transferring command, be sure to communicate all information that has been noted and all decisions made.
5. All personnel reporting in will place I.D. tag in its proper location. (Refer to Passport Accountability System S.O.G. #4).
6. All personnel shall wear all appropriate Personal Protective Equipment. Anyone entering any atmosphere that could be hazardous to their health must wear an SCBA.

**Scene Size-up:**

1. All Chimney Fires will be treated as a Structure Fire by the Burlington Twp. Fire Department. If a second department has not been toned by Central Dispatch, the first member to call our department in service will request a second department be dispatched.
2. If the structure is involved refer to the structure fire S.O.G. #3.
3. I.C. will determine if additional resources are needed from another agency.
  - a. Is the fire large?
  - b. Is there enough manpower?
  - c. How many exposures need to be protected?

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**Extinguishment/Attack of Fire:**

1. 1-1/2" hose or larger will be charged and advanced to the structure.
2. The roof must be laddered in two locations.
  - a. Two firefighters will be on the roof working on roof ladders.
  - b. Firefighters may use the chimney clean-out chain when directed by the I.C.
3. Put salvage covers down on walkways.
4. Two firefighters will enter the structure with a Thermal Imaging Camera to check for fire extension and a chimfex will be inserted in the woodstove/fireplace. The flue must be left open.
5. Use water only when the fire has spread or at the discretion of the I.C.
6. Prevent unnecessary damage.
7. Clean all the ash out of the stove/fireplace with the ash bucket and dump away from the structure and wet down.

**Mobile Homes:**

1. Stay off the roof unless necessary and be alert for more than one roof.

**Additional Actions:**

1. Any Firefighter suspecting arson will notify I.C.
2. If a family is displaced due to the fire the Red Cross can/should be notified.
3. DO NOT ok the use of the chimney. Recommend the occupant or owner has the system inspected and cleaned before reuse.
  - a. I.C. shall have the owner/occupant sign a form (attachment 1) indicating notification of above.
4. The owners/occupants **will not** be allowed to enter the structure until the I.C. has been notified and has given permission.

**Clearing the Scene:**

1. I.C. shall verify all hot and smoldering spots are fully extinguished.
2. I.C. will clear the department from the location with Central Dispatch.
3. All apparatus and equipment will be refueled before returning to the station.
4. Everyone shall report back to the station for cleanup and After Incident Report.