



WILL COUNTY LAND USE DEPARTMENT

58 E. Clinton Street, Suite 100 • Joliet, Illinois 60432

815/727-8634 • Fax: 815/727-8638

MASONRY FIREBOX INSPECTION CHECKLIST

This checklist is intended for use to prepare for an inspection. This is only a general list and is not intended to address all possible conditions. References are to the 2012 International Codes (R = Residential, B = Building, M = Mechanical, FG = Fuel Gas, F = Fire), 1997 Illinois Accessibility Code (IAC), 2011 National Electric Code (NEC), 2014 Illinois State Plumbing Code (ISPC), 2015 International Energy Conservation Code as amended by the State of Illinois (IECC), 2014 Will County Building Ordinance (WCBO).

**The Land Use Department requests that inspections be requested 48-hours in advance.
Please verify the following before scheduling for inspection:**

1. The building permit or copy thereof shall be kept on the site of the work conspicuously posted and visible from the public right-of-way. (*WCBO 150.008-E-4*)
2. Approved plans must be on site for all inspections. (*WCBO 150.031-G*)
3. Safe access (ladder or temporary stairs) shall be provided as per OSHA rules and regulations. (*WCBO 150.008 -I*)
4. If individuals are present for the inspection, at least one of the individuals shall be over the age of 18. (*WCBO 150.008-I*)
5. Failed inspections shall be subject to re-inspection fees in accordance with Chapter 158 of the Will County Code of Ordinances.
6. Firebox shall be inspected prior to setting of first flue. (*WCBO 150.008-I*)
7. If provided, cleanout openings shall be equipped with ferrous metal or masonry doors and frames. (*R1001.2.1*)
8. Firebox walls shall be constructed of solid masonry units, hollow masonry units grouted solid, stone, or concrete. When a lining of firebrick at least 2 inches thick or other approved lining is provided, the minimum thickness of back and side walls shall each be 8 inches of solid masonry, including the lining. (*R1001.5*)
9. The width of joints between firebricks shall not be greater than ¼ inch. (*R1001.5*)
10. Firebox shall have a minimum depth of 20 inches. The throat shall not be less than 8 inches above the fireplace opening. The throat opening shall not be less than 4 inches. (*WCBO 1001.6*)
11. Masonry over a fireplace opening shall be supported by lintel of noncombustible material. The minimum required bearing length on each end of the fireplace opening shall be 4 inches. The fireplace throat or damper shall be located a minimum of 8 inches above the lintel. (*R1001.7*)
12. Ferrous metal damper shall be located at least 8 inches above the top of the fireplace. (*R1001.7.1*)
13. Smoke chamber walls shall be constructed of solid masonry units, hollow masonry units grouted solid, stone, or concrete. The total minimum thickness of front, back, and side walls shall be 8 inches. The inside surface shall be parged smooth. When a lining of firebrick at least 2 inches thick, or a lining of vitrified clay at least 5/8 thick is provided, the total minimum thickness of front, back, and side walls shall be 6 inches. (*R1001.8*)

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14. The inside surface of the smoke chamber shall not be inclined more than 45 degrees when prefabricated smoke chamber linings are used. Corbeled masonry walls shall not be more than 30 degrees from vertical. *(R1001.8.1)*
15. Minimum hearth thickness shall be 4 inches. *(R1001.9.1)*
16. Minimum thickness of hearth extension shall be 2 inches. When the bottom of the firebox opening is raised at least 8 inches above the top of the hearth extension, a hearth extension of not less than 3/8 inch thick brick, concrete, stone, tile, or other approved noncombustible material is permitted. *(R1001.9.2)*
17. Hearths shall extend at least 16 inches in front of and at least 8 inches beyond each side of the fireplace opening. Where the fireplace opening is 6 square feet or greater, the dimensions shall be 20 inches and 12 inches. *(R1001.10)*
18. Exterior air supply shall be provided. The exterior air intake shall not be located within the garage or basement nor shall the air intake be located at an elevation higher than the firebox. Exterior air supply is not required if the room is mechanically ventilated and controlled so that the indoor pressure is neutral or positive. *(R1006)*

INSPECTION NOTES

Date:

Time:

Permit Number:

Inspection:

Inspector:

Result: