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City of Snoqualmie

Public Service Announcement

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Clothes Dryer Venting Safety

Lint can build up in your clothes dryer vent and may cause your dryer to exhaust at less than optimum efficiency. This creates potentially hazardous conditions including carbon monoxide intrusion and the possibility for exhaust fires. If a gas clothes dryer is improperly vented or the exhaust duct itself is blocked by lint, carbon monoxide can be forced back into your living space.

Annual dryer exhaust vent inspections are more necessary than ever before due to the complex construction of homes built today. Newer homes tend to have dryers located away from an outside wall in bathrooms, kitchens and in hall closets which is convenient, but potentially dangerous from a safety standpoint. These new locations mean that dryers tend to be vented longer distances and vents are generally installed with more bends to accommodate the extended path they must take through the home. As a result, this additional length creates more places where lint can collect.

The Chimney Safety Institute of America recommends that CSIA Certified Dryer Exhaust Technicians (C-DET) perform dryer vent inspections on an annual basis to ensure efficient operation of your clothes dryer system. C-DETs have passed an extensive exam on the proper inspection and maintenance of dryer vents, including applicable codes and standards relating to these systems.

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