



# **MERCER COUNTY CHIMNEY** **SERVICE LLC.**

When should I be performing a Level 2 inspection? You Should perform Level 2 inspection when there is any change to the system. Example installing new hot water heater or furnace. When you are in the process of purchasing of a new home. Also, if you have a chimney fire. These are the most common times to have a level 2 inspection. We recommend every five years and more often if there is noticable deterioration.

Why should you be performing Level 2?

When changing a hot water heater or furnace you want to make sure the system is able to safely remove the by products from the home.

When you are purchasing a home it is an extremely good idea to know what you are buying. Township C.O. only require a level 1 inspection of the chimney which is just a visual inspection of system of all the readily accessible area. In other words it is not even required that you go on the roof in a level 1 inspection. Chimney repairs especially fireplace liners are very expensive.

When a chimney fire happens it is almost certain that the liner has failed. Chimney fire burn up to 2000 degrees and terra cotta liner typical shatter like glass. Level 2 inspection will give us an upclose look at the extent of the damage and be able to give accurate quotes on repair.

Finally, a level 2 inspection should be performed prior to any repair of your chimney; you could be wasting your money fixing one thing and there be damage else where.

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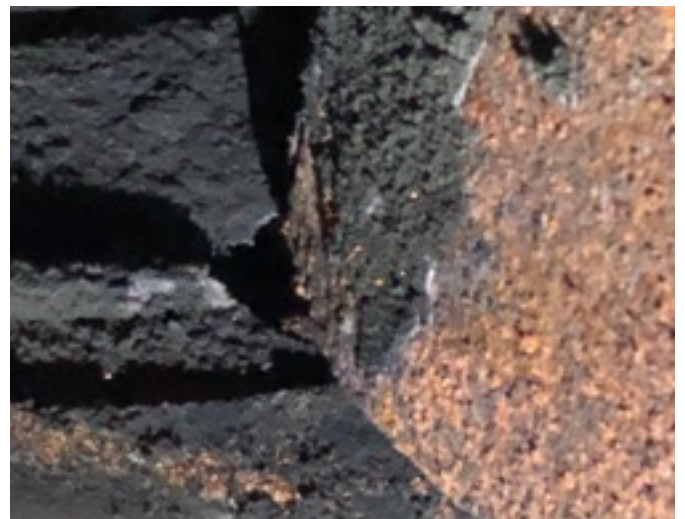
This photo was taken during level 2 fireplace was never use. Has missing mortar between terra cotta liner. A level 1 inspection would not have revealed this defect. This chimney has a metal firebox. Estimated cost to repair \$12,000.00 plus permits



This is a photo what a level 1 inspection looks like. This fireplace was relined but without running a camera to inspect you are guessing that everything is okay rather than knowing.



The photo above is of the crown or wash. The cracks are an easy fix now with products designed to seal. Had this gone undetected freeze thaw cycle could have caused this chimney to need a rebuild. Estimated cost to crown coat \$700.00 10 year warranty. Estimate cost to rebuild \$8000.00 10 year warranty.



This photo is of a prefabricated fireplace that passed a level 1 inspection from another chimney company. The hole in the collar is a major problem and at this point the unit is not fixable. Estimated cost \$11,000 plus permits

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This is a stainless steel liner that vents oil flue. Looking up from the basement liner looked in good condition. Not on the roof however. Estimated cost of repair \$2300.00 plus permit.



This is a prefabricated fireplace chimney top. You can not see the damage from the ground to the chase cover because to hide the ugly rust they installed aluminum white trim. This will eventually leak cause the fireplace to rust and deteriorate, possible mold growth inside the chase. New chase cover cost \$1800.00. New



The photo above is the outer hearth of the fireplace( in front of the fireplace non combustible surface) the under side in the basement. This is a wood form that should have been removed after construction.



The photo above is the inner hearth of the fireplace( or firebox directly below where you build fires) the under side in the basement. This is a wood form that should have been removed after construction at this point it is too late. This system must be altered to a system that allows combustibles underside of the hearth. Estimated cost \$13,000.00 + permit.