TITLE: CHIMNEY

VERSION: V2.2

DATE PUBLISHED: 06/23/22

DEFINITION: A vertical or near vertical passageway connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance.

PURPOSE: To safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior.

COMMON COMPONENTS: Visible flue; Firebox; Brick; Concrete; Masonry block; Wood Framing; Clay; Natural Stone

LOCATION: ☒ Unit Any enclosed, habitable space where a gas fireplace, wood-burning fireplace, or wood-burning appliance is located
☒ Inside Any enclosed, shared space where a gas fireplace, wood-burning fireplace, or wood-burning appliance is located
☒ Outside Any exterior, visually accessible component of a gas fireplace, wood-burning fireplace, or wood-burning appliance

MORE INFORMATION: - Ventilation of combustion gases from fuel-burning appliances should be evaluated under the respective item’s standard, including, but not limited to:  
  - Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)  
  - Water Heater  
  - A ventless fireplace should not be evaluated under this standard.

DEFIENCY 1: A visually accessible chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is incomplete or damaged such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior.

LOCATION: ☒ Unit ☒ Inside ☒ Outside

DEFIENCY 2: Chimney exhibits signs of structural failure.

LOCATION: ☒ Outside
DEFICIENCY I — UNIT: A visually accessible chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is incomplete or damaged such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: A visually accessible (i.e., can be reasonably accessed and observed) chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is incomplete (i.e., evidence of a previously installed component that is now not present) such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior.

OR

A visually accessible (i.e., can be reasonably accessed and observed) chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is damaged (i.e., visibly defective; impacts functionality) such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening

The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to the resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

OBSERVATION:
- Identify all fireplaces and wood-burning appliances.
- Visually inspect each chimney, flue, and firebox to determine if it is incomplete (i.e., evidence of a previously installed component that is now not present).
- Visually inspect each chimney, flue, and firebox for damage (i.e., visibly defective; impacts functionality).

REQUEST FOR HELP:
- None

ACTION:
- None

MORE INFORMATION:
- If a fireplace is intentionally decommissioned (e.g., sealed; not positioned for use), then do not evaluate it under this deficiency.
DEFICIENCY 2 — INSIDE: A visually accessible chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is incomplete or damaged such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA: A visually accessible (i.e., can be reasonably accessed and observed) chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is incomplete (i.e., evidence of a previously installed component that is now not present) such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior.

OR

A visually accessible (i.e., can be reasonably accessed and observed) chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is damaged (i.e., visibly defective; impacts functionality) such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION: Life-Threatening The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to the resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

HCV PASS / FAIL: Fail

HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME: 24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

- Identify all fireplaces and wood-burning appliances.
- Visually inspect each chimney, flue, and firebox to determine if it is incomplete (i.e., evidence of a previously installed component that is now not present).
- Visually inspect each chimney, flue, and firebox for damage (i.e., visibly defective; impacts functionality).

REQUEST FOR HELP: None

ACTION: None

MORE INFORMATION: If a fireplace is intentionally decommissioned (e.g., sealed; not positioned for use), then do not evaluate it under this deficiency.
### Deficiency I — Outside:

A visually accessible chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is incomplete or damaged such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior.

### Deficiency Criteria:

A visually accessible (i.e., can be reasonably accessed and observed) chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is incomplete (i.e., evidence of a previously installed component that is now not present) such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior.

OR

A visually accessible (i.e., can be reasonably accessed and observed) chimney, flue, or firebox connected to a fireplace or wood-burning appliance is damaged (i.e., visibly defective; impacts functionality) such that it may not safely contain fire and convey smoke and combustion gases to the exterior.

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### Health and Safety Determination:

**Life-Threatening**

The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to the resident.

### Correction Timeframe:

24 hours

### HCV Pass / Fail:

Fail

### HCV Correction Timeframe:

24 hours

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### Inspection Process:

#### Observation:

- Identify all fireplaces and wood-burning appliances.
- Visually inspect each chimney, flue, and firebox to determine if it is incomplete (i.e., evidence of a previously installed component that is now not present).
- Visually inspect each chimney, flue, and firebox for damage (i.e., visibly defective; impacts functionality).

#### Request for Help:

- None

#### Action:

- None

#### More Information:

- For the purpose of this inspection, the ash cleanout should be considered as part of the firebox and therefore evaluated under this deficiency.
- For the purpose of this inspection, the inspector should not go on the roof to evaluate the chimney.
- If a fireplace is intentionally decommissioned (e.g., sealed, not positioned for use), then do not evaluate it under this deficiency.
DEFICIENCY 2 — OUTSIDE:  CHIMNEY EXHIBITS SIGNS OF STRUCTURAL FAILURE.

DEFICIENCY CRITERIA:  The chimney exhibits signs of structural failure such that the integrity of the chimney is jeopardized.

HEALTH AND SAFETY DETERMINATION:  Life-Threatening  The Life-Threatening category includes deficiencies that, if evident in the home or on the property, present a high risk of death to the resident.

CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:  24 hours
HCV PASS / FAIL:  Fail
HCV CORRECTION TIMEFRAME:  24 hours

INSPECTION PROCESS:

- Observation:
  - Identify all fireplaces and wood-burning appliances.
  - Visually inspect each chimney to determine if it exhibits any sign of structural failure.

- Request for Help:  None

- Action:  None

- More Information:  Examples of chimney structural failure include, but are not limited to:
  - Misaligned
  - Detached
  - Leaning away from the building
  - Collapsed
  - Imminent danger of collapse
### SUMMARY OF CHANGES

**Title:** CHIMNEY

**Version:** V2.2

**Date Published:** 06/23/22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Version</th>
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<td>Outside</td>
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<td>More Information</td>
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<td>Deficiency 1</td>
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<td>Health and Safety Determination</td>
<td>Unit, Inside, &amp; Outside: “Life-Threatening”</td>
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<td>Inspection Process</td>
<td>Unit, Inside, &amp; Outside: Revised Observation, Request for Help, Action, and More Information</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Health and Safety Determination
- Outside: “Life-Threatening”

### Inspection Process
- Outside: Revised Observation, Request for Help, Action, and More Information

### Deficiency 3
- Removed from V2.1; captured under deficiency 1
- V2.1
- 2021-04-02

### Deficiency 4
- Removed from V2.1; captured under deficiency 1
- V2.1
- 2021-04-02

### Deficiency 5
- Removed from V2.1; captured under deficiency 1 and deficiency 2
- V2.1
- 2021-04-02

### Deficiency 6
- Removed from V2.1; captured under deficiency 1 and deficiency 2
- V2.1
- 2021-04-02

### Deficiency 1
- V2.0
- 2020-10-28

### Correction Timeframe
- Changed to “24 hours”

### HCV Pass / Fail
- Field added; response input as “Fail”

### HCV Correction Timeframe
- Changed to “24 hours”

### Deficiency 2
- V2.0
- 2020-10-28

### Deficiency 3
- V2.0
- 2020-10-28

### Deficiency 4
- V2.0
- 2020-10-28

### HCV Pass / Fail
- Field added; response input as “Fail”
# Deficiency 5

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health and Safety Determination</td>
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## Overall Formatting

- Complete rework of document format and layout
- Added standardized description

## Definition

- Revised definition

## Purpose

- Field added

## Location

- Revised inspectable locations

## More Information

- Field added

## Deficiency 1

- Separated by inspectable locations — Outside
- Added inspectable locations

### Deficiency Criteria

- Revised defect criteria

### Health and Safety Determination

- Revised to “Standard” determination; added standardized description

### Correction Timeframe

- Field added; response input as “Within 30 days”

### HCV — Correction Timeframe

- Field added; response input as “Within 30 days”

### Rationale

- Revised rationale categories, types, and explanations; added standardized codes and descriptions

### Inspection Process

- Revised observation, request for help, action, and more information

### Tools or Equipment

- Field added to deficiency; response revised

## Deficiency 2

- Separated by inspectable locations — Unit and Inside
- Added inspectable locations

### Deficiency Criteria

- Revised defect criteria

### Health and Safety Determination

- Added standardized description

### Correction Timeframe

- Field added; response input as “Within 30 days”

### HCV — Correction Timeframe

- Field added; response input as “Within 30 days”

### Rationale

- Revised rationale categories, types, and explanations; added standardized codes and descriptions

### Inspection Process

- Revised observation, request for help, action, and more information

### Tools or Equipment

- Field added to deficiency; response revised
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<td>Inspection Process</td>
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<td>Tools or Equipment</td>
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