



CHIMNEY SWEEPING AND FIRE SAFETY INSPECTIONS OF HOLIDAY PROPERTIES

- The chimney sweep section at Midt-Hedmark fire and rescue service (MHBR IKS) would like to inform all holiday home owners in our municipalities that a legal requirement has been introduced for sweeping and inspection of chimneys and fireplaces in all holiday homes.

(Ref. The Fire and Explosion Protection Act of 14 June 2002 § 11h and Regulations of 1 January 2016 on Fire Prevention (Prevention Regulations) sections 6 and 17. New regulations on fire prevention (entered into force on 01/01/16)).

➤ **Sweeping and inspection requirements**

Examples of systems that depend on fire (combustion) for generating heat are: open and closed fireplaces, boilers as well as associated chimneys and fuel feeding systems.

The requirement states that the municipality shall:

- ensure that smoke ducts are cleaned when needed; and
- ensure that inspection/supervision of systems that depend on fire for generating heat is carried out when necessary and after a fire or explosion in or in connection with the system.

➤ **Sweeping and inspection frequency**

Sweeping and inspection of your holiday home will be undertaken at the same time, to minimize the inconvenience. The frequency is determined upon a risk assessment which is based on several aspects such as: the frequency of usage, heating habits and the general condition of system. This generally results in frequencies of 4 to 8 years.

➤ **Potential deviations**

In the event of deviations being found, this will be notified verbally as well as in writing, along with a given deadline in which the deviation must be closed. In the event of deviations and non-conformities that result in an imminent fire hazard during use, and until the deviation is corrected, a fire ban may be imposed as the utmost consequence.

➤ **Owner's responsibility**

Before the sweeper arrives, the owner must make sure:

- that there will be someone present at the property; and
- that the sweeper has adequate access to the entire system, both internally and externally.

➤ **Bookings / appointments**

Midt-Hedmark fire and rescue service will perform the services in smaller regions/areas at a time. Prioritized areas will be larger cabin areas in the first place.

This will be notified through text message to the owner of the property. Holiday home owners must then provide a confirmation in response (normally by replying back to the text message), to confirm receipt of the original notification.

Owners of holiday properties located in more scattered areas can contact us directly for enquiries and appointments on: +47 62 43 32 30.

➤ **Fees for holiday homes**

For sweeping and supervision of holiday homes, Midt-Hedmark fire and rescue service will charge a separate fee based on a self-cost principle.

After having received a notification of planned services to be performed, holiday home owners will receive an invoice shortly after, regardless of whether sweeping and supervision is carried out or not.

With best regards, Midt-Hedmark brann- og redningsvesen IKS