



CLAY FIRE

18355 Auten Road • South Bend, IN 46637 Telephone: (574) 272-2144
Fax: (574) 272-4043
Internet: www.clayfd.com

PRESS RELEASE

Tuesday, December 15, 2009

CHIMNEY FIRE IN CLAY TOWNSHIP BRINGS A ANOTHER CHANGES ON THE WREATH PROGRAM

South Bend, IN- Clay Fire Territory responded to the 53,100 block of Oak Mount East about 6:20pm tonight in Clay Township for Chimney fire. The fire was the result of built of creosote in the chimney. With this fire comes the changing of the fourth red bulb on the "Keep the Wreath Red" program. Keep the Wreath Red" is a holiday fire safety program designed to increase fire safety awareness. In the event of a fire, firefighters will replace one of the red bulbs with a white one. The goal is to keep the bulbs on that wreath red.

Clay Fire would like to remind everyone that heating fires account for 36% of residential home fires in rural areas every year. Often these fires are due to creosote buildup in chimneys and stovepipes. All home heating systems require regular maintenance to function safely and efficiently. Chimney or wood stove need to be inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist. Also, keep air inlets on wood stoves open, and never restrict air supply to fireplaces because this may cause creosote buildup that could lead to a chimney fire.

###

Submitted by:
Lt. Ron Melsner Jr.
Clay Fire, Community Service Division
574-272-2144