



# Fireplaces and Woodstoves; Fire in the House!

## Course Outline

By

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### Course description:

This four-hours session will cover fireplaces and woodstoves in an easy to understand format. Seasoned inspectors typically know the basic items to look for; but did you ever wonder; what actually are the specific components names and functions? What can be done to reduce wood stove clearances? Additionally, we will discuss modalities and evidences of failures and/or improper installations and review many actual case studies. Our emphasis will be the fundamentals of inspection standards of practice with respect to solid fuel devices, and we will delve into improper modifications and common failures with respect to improper use, damage and just plain stupid installations.

### Goal:

Upon completion of this class, students will be more knowledgeable regarding the installation, inspection and evaluation of fireplaces and wood stoves and the various related systems and components with application to residential inspection. Students will also be more knowledgeable regarding the appropriate conditions observed that warrant recommendation of further analysis.

### Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of the course students will be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of:

1. Nomenclature specific to masonry and factory built fireplace and woodstove installations and their relation to Home Inspection
2. Identify Components and proper installation with respect to fireplace systems
3. Identify Modalities and evidences of failure; installation, weathering and mechanical related
4. Common "defects" and recognition/reporting

### Books and Handouts:

PowerPoint Presentation



## Evaluation:

Class participation

## Class Schedule

### Draft Abstract:

The fireplace and chimney assembly is a significant component to any home – it controls a fire in your house! Its proper performance contributes significantly to the home in several ways, not the least of which is aesthetics. This 4 hrs course will address several common, and many, not so common, defects found in chimneys and fireplaces inspected across the country. Everything from weather related defects, to the most insane installations will be brought to the big screen for your education.

Timing: 4 hours

Class Presentation: Powerpoint presentation by Michael Casey & Mike Nelson

### Timed Outline:

1. Welcome and Program Overview 10 mins.
2. Fireplaces, woodstoves, Improper Modifications 60 mins.
3. Change of usage, characteristics, defective products 60 mins.
4. Improper Installation – Woodstove Clearance reductions 60 mins.
5. Improper usage 40 mins.
6. Overview Q & A 10 mins.

Bio:

Or other instructor as approved by COA

**Michael** is a partner with Casey, O'Malley Associates; a national A.M. Best recommended consulting firm based in San Diego. **Mike** is a past president of the California Real Estate Inspection Association (1994/1995) and of the American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI) (2002). Mike is multi-code certified by the ICC and IAPMO. He is a licensed general, plumbing and mechanical contractor in several states and a Virginia Certified home inspector. Besides co-authoring several books in the **Code Check** series, Michael has authored numerous other books, and has taught home and building inspection and has an expert witness and claims consulting practice throughout North America since 1987. Mike has inspected over 10,000 buildings in his over 25-years career in the inspection profession.

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