

# VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS

## Chimney Sweep Certifications Enhance Expertise

Chimney sweeps play important roles in our lives: they keep our fireplaces and chimneys happy and healthy so we can stay warm! Kind of like a doctor for our chimneys! These pros have to know what they're doing when they put their heads inside a chimney, and to do that, chimney sweeps must obtain specialized training and the highest certifications in their field possible.

There are a few necessary certifications. **The Village of Olympia Fields will only accept a fireplace inspection certification from a company that has certification from an accredited organization such as the two listed below.**

**Chimney Safety Institute of America: [www.csia.org](http://www.csia.org)**

**National Chimney Sweep Guild: [www.ncsg.org](http://www.ncsg.org)**

When you train to become a chimney sweep, you do so through courses approved by the Chimney Safety Institute of America. Along the way, sweeps-in-training learn such concepts as guidelines and safety precautions for inspecting chimneys.

The CCS certification is valid for 1 year, but is easy to renew each year for a minimal fee. Note that every 3 years, chimney sweeps must retest for continued certification.

An independent company called Certified Chimney Professionals (CCP) offers various certifications for qualified sweeps. These certificates, the Certified Chimney Professional, Certified Chimney Re-liner, and Certified Master Chimney Technician, are often attained in addition to the credentials earned from the CSIA.

There is a whole host of credentials that make a chimney sweep more qualified and enhances his/her credibility as a true professional. From the top dog certification from CSIA to the supplemental credentials from CCP, sweeps themselves can have the confidence necessary to do their jobs and clients may be assured of quality service.