



Service de sécurité incendie Fire Department

Hot ashes



According to the Ministry of Public Security of Quebec:

Each year, an average of 140 building fires occur due to poor storage of hot ashes. Statistics show that in most cases the container was inappropriate or the storage was inadequate. This heat source is one of the top 10 sources of heat identified by firefighters in researching the causes and circumstances of fires.

How to dispose of ashes

Empty the fireplace ash regularly.

Dispose of the hot ashes in a metal container with a raised bottom and a metal lid.

Place the container on a non-combustible surface.

Keep a minimum distance of 1 meter between the metal container and the walls of the house, garage, shed and any other combustible material such as a hedge or canvas cover.

The ash should rest in this container for at least 3 to 7 days before being thrown into another container such as the Organic Bin or the trash. For this purpose, also consult the recommendations of your municipality.

Before transferring the ash to another type of container, check that the ashes are completely cooled.

Stir the ashes regularly to ensure that no heat is generated.

For more precautions, store the ash throughout the winter season and get rid of it only in the spring.

Warning!

Never use a vacuum cleaner to pick up the **hot** ashes.

Hot ashes give off **Carbon Monoxide (CO)**; therefore, they must be stored outside the home or garage.

For information :

<http://www.securitepublique.gouv.qc.ca/securite-incendie/prevenir-incendie/conseils-prevention/cendres-chaudes.html>
<http://www.securitepublique.gouv.qc.ca/securite-incendie/prevenir-incendie/conseils-prevention/chauffage-bois.html>