

What type of WETT-certified professional do I need?

WETT primarily certifies individuals in the following categories (and combinations thereof):

SITE Basic Inspector — These are individuals who can perform a level-1 inspection.

Technician — These are individuals who can install or perform maintenance on wood-burning appliances. They can also perform a level-1 or level-2 inspection.

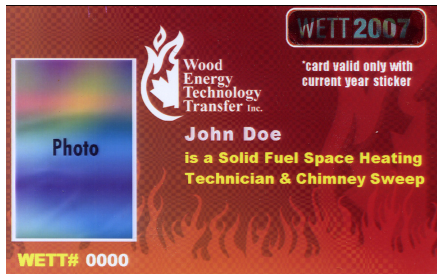
Chimney Sweep — These are individuals who can clean and maintain your entire wood-burning system, including sweeping the chimney. They can also perform a level-1 or level-2 inspection.

SITE Comprehensive Inspector — These are individuals who can perform a level-1, level-2 or level-3 inspection. These individuals are also technicians and/or sweeps.

How can I verify that someone is certified?

You can verify that someone is certified by checking the WETT Inc. website www.wettinc.ca or by calling the WETT National office at 1-888-358-9388.

It is important to note that WETT certifies individuals, not companies. Companies may advertise that they have WETT-certified people on staff.



When contacting companies, you should make it clear that you are looking for a WETT-certified individual to complete work on your behalf. WETT professionals are issued photo ID cards, which include a sticker. This sticker must be for the current year.

Add your company information, logo and contact details here.



I Need My Wood-burning System Inspected

Inspections for solid-fuel-burning systems (fireplaces, chimneys, wood-burning stoves, central-heating systems) are conducted for a variety of reasons. Typically they are conducted for insurance purposes, for real estate transactions or to investigate a concern with the way the system is functioning.

Can I get a WETT inspection or WETT certificate?

A WETT inspection is the inspection of a solid-fuel-burning system, performed by a WETT-certified professional, for compliance with applicable codes and standards. Appliances cannot be WETT certified.

WETT frequently receives requests for a “WETT certificate,” a “WETT certification,” a “WETT Approval” or is asked if it’s a “WETT-certified installation.” We also receive requests for companies that are “WETT certified.” These are common misconceptions — they do not exist. What should be issued is an inspection report completed by someone who is WETT certified. The WETT certification number of the member should be included on his or her report.

What you need to do is contact a WETT-certified professional to inspect your solid-fuel-burning system. WETT has adopted a process to help identify the level of inspection required. We call this SITE®.

What kind of SITE® inspection do I need?

SITE® is a set of standardized guidelines and procedures that are recommended by WETT for the inspection and/or evaluation of solid-fuel-burning systems. SITE® outlines three levels of inspection:

Level-1 Inspection — “Readily Accessible”

Readily Accessible is defined as quickly or easily reached for inspection.

A level-1 inspection does not require the use of special tools for the opening or removal of any panel, door, covering, or system components; nor (unless at the discretion of the inspector and client) would it require the use of ladders.

An inspector should be able to inspect any moveable components of the fireplace, appliance or venting system that are readily accessible. Examples would be components utilized during normal operation or visual inspection by the user of the system, such as readily accessible loading doors, primary combustion chamber, ashpan doors, cleanout doors, dampers, air controls, etc.

A tape measure, light, mirror, camera, magnet, selfie-stick and/or other basic tools should comprise (but are not limited to) the typical tools required to perform for this level of inspection

Level-2 Inspection — “Accessible”

Accessible is defined as able to be reached for the purpose of inspection, without the use of invasive methods to access areas of the building, property or components of the solid-fuel-burning system.

Access may require the moving or removal of doors, panels, other coverings or system components, and will require the use of ladders and common tools typically used by a WETT-certified chimney sweep or technician.

Accessible system and/or building components can be repositioned to their original location and/or condition.

Level-3 Inspection — “Concealed Accessibility”

Concealed Accessibility is defined as not able to be accessed except by invasive methods.

Access to concealed areas would require the removal of constructed property and/or system components by invasive methods, for the purpose of implementing a level-3 inspection. This may require the use of specialty tools and equipment, such as a video scanning device or flue tile removal system

It may not be possible to reposition the removed property or system components to their original location and/or condition.

A permit would be required by the Authority Having Jurisdiction when compromising structural building components

An inspector will be able to help you assess which level is required based on your needs. For most insurance and real estate inspections, a level 1 may be sufficient. If, during the course of the inspection, the inspector sees signs of concern, a level 2 or level 3 may be recommended.

If your wood-burning system is not functioning properly or causing concerns such as smoke spillage, rapid creosote accumulation, etc., you should discontinue use and contact a WETT-certified technician or sweep.

What kind of report will I receive?

The report details the areas in which the installation meets or does not meet the requirements of the manufacturer’s installation instructions and the appropriate codes. An installation is either compliant with the relevant building and installation codes or it is not.

As part of an inspection, you will receive a written inspection report. WETT provides members with recommended inspection forms for their use. Members may use these or they may have different formats that they use. Typically, most level-1 inspection forms will capture information that includes appliance type, certification markings, clearances and if the installation meets the relevant codes. Given the detailed nature of level-2 and level-3 inspections, additional information may be captured.

For how long is an inspection report valid?

The nature of any inspection report is that it records what was seen at the date and time of the inspection. After completing an inspection report and leaving the premises, the inspector has no control over, nor knowledge of, any changes to a solid-fuel-burning system. Consequently, an inspection report can only warrant what was seen and recorded at the time of the inspection.

What is the cost of an inspection?

WETT’s authority does not include regulating how much WETT-certified professionals charge for their services. This question can be asked when you call to arrange for an inspection. Pricing may vary depending on the level of inspection required, travel distance for the inspector and documentation provided.

How to find an inspector?

In order to find a WETT-certified member in your area, please go to our website (www.wettinc.ca) and use the Find a WETT Certified Professional search feature.