



Do you have a wood smoke problem?



Did you know that wood smoke contains more than a 100 different toxic substances such as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), volatile organic compounds (VOC), fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and carbon monoxide (CO)? Indeed, on an annual basis in Canada, wood heating contributes to almost 30% of fine particulate matter emissions coming from human activities (industrial, transport,...). Particulate matter can be inhaled deep into the lungs. Those suffering from cardiovascular and respiratory disease, as well as young children and the elderly, are especially vulnerable to the presence of these pollutants in the air. Here are some tips to reduce wood smoke created by your appliance:

Don't...

- ... use your wood stove or fireplace if you don't have to
- ... heat with wood when a smog alert is in effect unless wood heat is your main heating source
- ... burn garbage, plastic or glossy magazines and cardboard
- ... burn wet, green, shore drift wood, painted or treated wood
- ... store your wood in a wet area
- ... don't let a fire smoulder overnight and don't dampen down your fire.



Do...



Use your wood stove or fireplace **only** if you have to

Be informed of winter smog condition and follow the advice regarding wood heating

Make a small hot fire

Burn dry, clean wood

If possible, switch to another type of heating

If you must heat with wood, upgrade to a new EPA certified wood stove.