

Take a Second Look at Your Wood Stove

Do you...

- Regularly smell smoke in the house with all the windows closed?
- Notice smoke coming from the chimney more than 15 minutes after a cold start or reload?
- Experience watery eyes and stuffy noses with use of the wood stove?
- Have to constantly feed the stove with wood?

If you answered “Yes” to any of these items, consider replacing your old wood stove.

Learn Before You Burn

1 Burn the right wood

Burn only dry, seasoned wood for a hotter fire with less smoke.

2 The right way

A fire needs oxygen. Provide sufficient air to the fire and keep space between logs when adding fuel.

3 In the right appliance

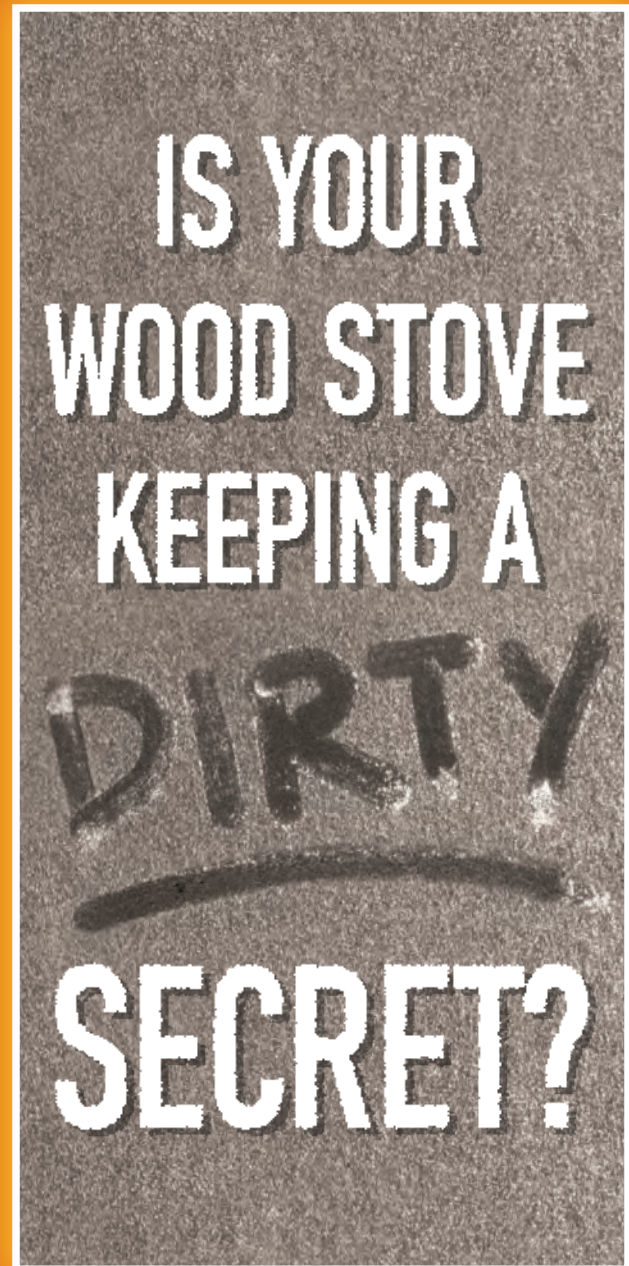
Upgrade to the cleanest, most efficient, EPA-certified wood-burning appliance. Learn about even more efficient heating devices at www.epa.gov/burnwise.

Burn  Wise
Program of U.S. EPA

www.epa.gov/burnwise



February 2023
EPA-456/F-23-001



Burn  Wise
Program of U.S. EPA

Old Stoves are Smoky and Inefficient

Wood stoves manufactured before 1990 are inefficient. They waste firewood, and can pollute the air in your home and neighborhood.

Smoky Stoves Affect Your Health

Numerous scientific studies have linked exposure to small particles in wood smoke to both heart and lung effects:

- premature death in people with heart or lung disease
- nonfatal heart attacks
- irregular heartbeat
- aggravated asthma
- decreased lung function
- increased respiratory symptoms, such as coughing

People with heart or lung diseases, children, and older adults are the most likely to be affected.

Replace with New Technology

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends replacing old wood stoves with modern heating appliances. This can reduce smoke, cut heating expenses, and make your home healthier and safer. There are many cleaner, more efficient heating options, including heat pumps, gas stoves, pellet devices, catalytic, and hybrid wood stoves.



Is your stove old?

Look for an EPA label on the back that indicates it is certified. If there is no EPA label, it is likely over 30 years old. Also, stoves with solid metal doors are generally older and should be replaced and disposed of properly.

Benefits of Cleaner Heating Devices

SAVE Money

- More efficient heating.

INCREASE Safety

- Reduce the risk of a home fire.

PROTECT Your Health

- Decrease harmful pollution inside your home.

REDUCE Air Pollution

- Improve outdoor air quality.

Retailers can Help You

A hearth retailer can guide you through the wood stove removal and replacement process. With more than a hundred stoves to choose from, the variety and cost ranges are wide — from \$1,000 to \$4,000 before installation. Check for federal, state, tribal, or local agency tax credits and incentives for replacement.

Professional Installation Matters

Improperly installed stoves or chimneys can spill smoke back into your home or cause a house fire. A hearth specialty retailer can arrange professional installation by a trained technician or one certified by the National Fireplace Institute.®



"Stoves and chimneys should be inspected by a certified chimney sweep once a year to prevent chimney fires."

~Chimney Safety Institute of America