

What Regulations apply to Outdoor Wood-Burning Furnaces?

OWFs installed after July 8, 2005 must:

- Be installed not less than 200 feet from the nearest residence not served by the furnace.
- The stack must be higher than the roof peak of any residence within 500 feet of the furnace but not more than 55 feet high.

For all OWFs, the visible smoke must not:

- Cross property lines at ground level in any way that could diminish the health, safety, or enjoyment of people using a building.
- Exceed 20% opacity for more than 6 minutes or exceed 40% opacity for more than 1 minute.
- Create nuisance odors that cross the property line.

If you choose to purchase an OWF:

- Consider purchasing an OWF that qualifies under EPA's voluntary Hydronic Heaters Program. OWFs that qualify under this program are up to 90% cleaner burning than standard units. More information on this program is available on **EPA's website** at www.epa.gov/woodheaters.

Don't
Choke
on the
Smoke



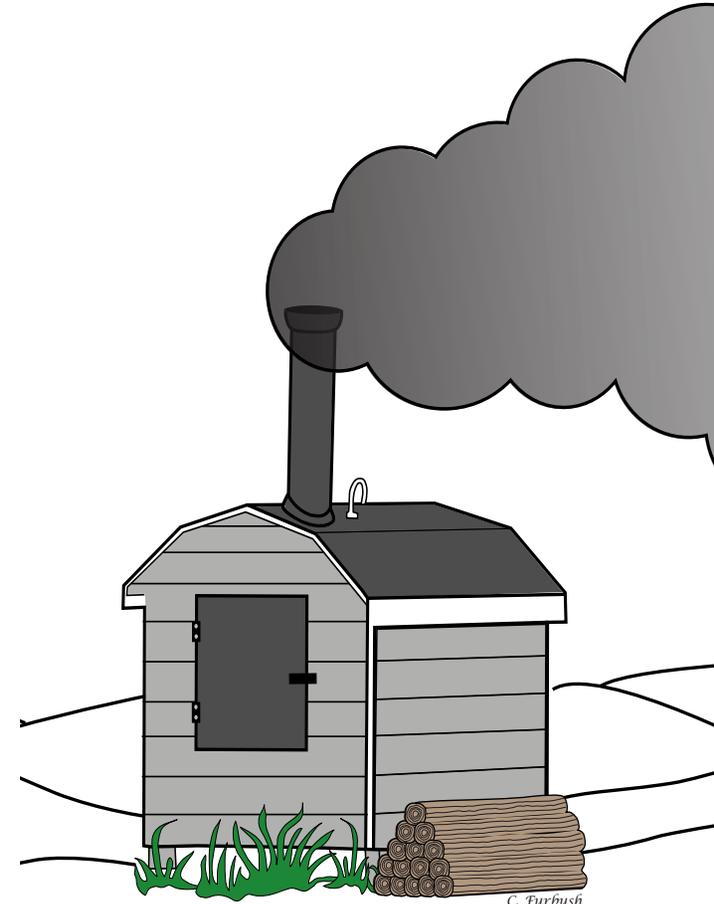
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Thinking Of Purchasing An Outdoor Wood-Burning Furnace?



Before You Purchase An Outdoor Wood-Burning Furnace (OWF) You Should Be Aware Of The Following:

They are **unhealthier** than you may have been led to believe:

- OWFs emit unhealthy amounts of particulate matter, dioxin, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, hydrochloric acid, formaldehyde, and other toxic air pollutants.
- In fact, one OWF emits the same amount of particulate matter that 3,000-8,000 homes heated by natural gas would. This is essentially equivalent to the number of homes in the town of Plainfield.

While you may be interested in purchasing an OWF to reduce heating bills, operating it properly can also be **very expensive**:

- The initial cost of purchase can be thousands of dollars.
- Additional expenses can be in the thousands of dollars, including: installation costs, meeting siting requirements, and obtaining additional equipment such as increasing the height of smoke stacks to be compliant with state air pollution laws.

You could encounter some **unhappy neighbors**:

- Neighbors' complaints about smoke and odors make up a high percentage of the complaints the inspectors from the DEP Air Management Bureau deal with each year.
- Sometimes these complaints result in lawsuits between neighbors.

OWFs are responsible for a number of **enforcement actions** including State Orders and Notices of Violation:

- When OWFs violate the regulations controlling smoke, odor or siting requirements, the DEP may take enforcement action to bring these units back into compliance.

For more information on Outdoor Wood-Burning Furnaces, log on to the **DEP's webpage** at www.ct.gov/dep and search for OWF in the DEP Search box.

