



## From the AIR PROGRAM



### Wood and Pellet Stove Glossary

**Efficiency.** The percent of fuels (wood or pellet) energy converted to heat. The efficiencies of stoves and venting systems should match as much as possible, as either may be a limiting factor.

**Venting System.** The entire apparatus between the stove flue and the chimney vent outside. Keeping this structure safely warm, sealed and clean is what enables updraft, needed for efficient burning.

**Elbows.** These are bends in the venting system. The less of these the better for updraft of heated air.

**Firestop.** A metal plate of the same diameter as the chimney pipe to maintain clearances, and hold the pipe in place.

**Creosote.** Combustible soot buildup. Needs removing with scrubbing agent from the hardware store

**Carbon monoxide.** Product of incomplete combustion. Odorless, colorless gas in flue exhaust can be lethal in accumulated doses. Sinks to ground level and fills upwards. Detectors sold at hardware store.

**Combustible materials.** Is what the stove and chimney must have clearances from for fire safety. Combustibility is partly determined by threshold temperatures for that material's ignition, not just contact with ignition source. If in doubt, assume a home material is combustible.

**Radiant heat.** Energy waves converted to heat on contact with a surface.

**Convective heat.** Transfer of heated air.

*Most stoves are a combination of radiant and convective heat.*

**Attic insulation shield.** Goes between chimney pipe above ceiling and any insulation, as insulation can transfer heat to timber framing.

**Backdraft.** Reversal of air flow where smoke may enter the house instead of going up the chimney. Can occur if the house at stove level is depressurized (either by wind effects, hot air escaping near top of house, or other reasons) or if cold air in the chimney is sinking into the house.

*Info partly from HPBA, CSIA, EPA. Call 760-784-9308 for more info.*

### BURN PERMIT UPDATES

Permits are required for outdoor burning. On "YES" days only. The Air Program thanks everyone who has renewed and followed the rules of their permits.

Currently, ALL applicants must contact the Air Quality Specialist at 873-784-4037 or the Natural Resources Specialist at 760-784-5763. Current permit-holders may proceed with following all permit conditions. Once issued or renewed for 2021, permits are valid through Dec 31st.

You must call for burn days at 873-2555 and you must call in your burn before you start to 873-5866.

**Why must outdoor burns be OUT BY NOON?** Local winds typically pick up in the afternoon, making it possible for even a small fire to get out of control. In addition, if you put your fire out by noon, but have a flare up, it will happen during daylight hours when you can more easily manage it.