SEASONED FIREWOOD

Pre-seasoned firewood burns more efficiently, starts easier, and creates less smoke. Less smoke leads to healthier indoor and outdoor air. Burn wood with a moisture reading under 20% moisture content for best results (especially with new stoves).

Resource: "Wet Wood is a Waste: How to Test Your Firewood with a Moisture Meter"

Plan six months in advance to the expected first burn. Split, stack, cover & store wood to increase the life expectancy of your woodstove, save money because of a more efficient burn, and create a healthier environment for your family.

BACKDRAFT ISSUES

DANGERS OF BACKDRAFT & SOLUTIONS

- Negative pressure in the home can cause smoke to pull into the house (open a window, shut off fans to help create positive pressure in home)
- Backdraft/cold chimney - Slowly heating up the chimney will cause smoke to start rising as it should rather than into your home
- Blocked chimneys can cause backdraft rather than air pressure. Inspect and clean if necessary
- Apply Proper Burn techniques (use of kindling and starter) - Wet wood can cause a lot more smoke

HOME CARE

PROTECT YOUR HOME

- Have a Fire Extinguisher (fully charged) ready to use, with the knowledge on how to properly use it. Make sure it is one for putting out fires and not other chemicals
- Fire Detectors - Replace batteries in order to help keep peace of mind knowing alarms will go off when danger occurs
- Carbon Monoxide Alarms - If there is danger of smoke or live fire burning in your home this alarm is a must have for keeping your family safe. (True Story: An elder had to go to the hospital because, unfortunately when her son cleaned her chimney, he did not do it properly and the harmful gas was getting back into the home. They’re lucky that no one died.)

BUILDING A FIRE

HAVING TROUBLE?

- Crisscross various sized pieces to create better air flow with flames. Work from bottom up for more heat build
- Use kindling starter (newspaper, wood shavings, etc.) to get the first flames going

USE: moisture meter on the inside of firewood (burn 20% or lower for best results)

DO NOT: use moisture meter on the end or on the outside of firewood

NOTE: For an accurate reading, the moisture meter should test the newly/freshly split side. Testing the end will not typically provide an accurate reading.

For questions, contact Lucas.Bair@SpokaneTribe.com or EPA’s Burn Wise Program website for additional resources!

Creosote is the number one cause of chimney fires. Be aware of how much creosote is in your chimney by inspecting it before each burning season. Depending on the amount of wood burned and moisture percentage of the wood, this may need to be done much more often to remove the threat. Always keep your chimney clear to keep your family out of danger.

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