HOT INFO ABOUT OUTDOOR FIRES

WOOD AND ONLY WOOD
DON’T GO AGAINST THE GRAIN. If it’s not clean, dry wood, it’s dangerous, toxic and illegal.

- Household trash: cardboard, plastics, colored magazines, boxes and wrappers
- Coated, painted and pressure-treated wood
- Driftwood, plywood, particle board or wood with glue on or in it
- Wet, rotted, diseased or moldy wood
- Plastic, asbestos, rubber, manure and animal remains

THE UNSEEN DANGERS of FINE PARTICULATE POLLUTION
Particulate matter contains droplets that are so small they can be inhaled and cause serious health problems. These particles can get deep into your lungs or even into your bloodstream. Exposure to these particles has been linked to a variety of problems including:

- Nonfatal heart attacks
- Aggravated asthma
- Decreased lung function
- Irregular heartbeat
- Premature death in people with heart or lung disease

WHAT’S IN WOOD SMOKE? WHERE THERE’S SMOKE THERE’S...

Methyl Chloride
Benzene TOLUENE
Carbon Monoxide
METHANE
Formaldehyde NAPHTHALENE

HOW DO YOU CHOOSE YOUR WOOD? UNSEASONED VS. SEASONED

SEASONED WOOD
Has 20% or less water content and has been cut, split and stored off the ground and protected from water for 6 months to a year
- Easy to start
- Produces more heat & light
- Produces less smoke & odor

UNSEASONED WOOD
Up to half the weight of freshly cut wood is from stored water
- Most of fire’s energy goes to evaporate retained liquid
- Produces a low temperature, slow burning, smoldering fire
- Can be very smoky

WHY CHILDREN & SMOKE DON’T MIX
- Their respiratory systems are still developing
- They breathe more air (and air pollution) per pound of body weight than adults
- They’re more likely to be active outdoors

THERE OUGHT TO BE A LAW AND THERE IS
Common sense restrictions make it easy to make smarter, healthier and more neighborly choices. Of course, if you can’t abide by the law, there may be fines for offenses.

MAKE IT BETTER.
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