

## Excerpts on Outdoor Boilers from Hearth.com

The Alliance for Green Heat posted information about the push to overturn outdoor wood boiler regulations in Utah on Hearth.com, the leading internet forum of residential hearth experts. The responses are casual observations by wood heat experts that are informative, and sometimes startling and humorous. The full thread of comments can be found here: <http://www.hearth.com/talk/threads/should-outdoor-boilers-be-installed-in-non-attainment-areas.107444/>. We encourage anyone interested in wood heat to use hearth.com as one source of information.

KaptJaq: Most people that use OWBs use so much wood they do not have time to season it. If they burned it cleanly it would be much less of a problem. I know of only one person that considers his neighbors when he burns his OWB. He uses seasoned wood, has a tall stack, large storage, and when weather conditions are not right (he is in a valley in Vermont) he goes to his fossil fuel backup. I don't think a ban on OWBs or any biomass heaters is the way to go. Clean them up and develop some method of accurately measuring the individual users' compliance with emission standards.

Hogwidz: Some friends have them, and all burn green wood in them. Makes my head spin when they tell me they go through 20-24 cords a year through these things.

Nick Mystic: Some friends of mine living in Maine are planning on setting up an OWB to heat a small green house and shop. I was talking to them this past weekend and I asked them if they had at least a couple years of wood laid up drying? They said, "No, you just cut the trees down and toss the logs into the OWB without even splitting them." I tried to explain why that wouldn't be a good idea, but they pretty much blew me off saying they already visited someone in the area with the same set up and that was how he did it with no problems. It's hard to conquer

ignorance when the facts get in the way with what they want to do!

Charly: Once they become a slave to getting wood for the OWB, it will get old. I did it for 7 years, I use to think wow, one year of wood for the OWB would last me 3 years with a regular wood stove.

Hogwildz: I was looking at a shop yesterday, and the shop uses 2 HUGE OWB's. One to heat the house and the other for the shop(s). They were using about 6,000 gallons of heating oil a year. Now they burn 10 triaxle loads a year. A triaxle can run anywhere from 6-10cords depending on the size of the truck. So they burn between 60 and 100 cords a year! Also burns their waste oil in them too. One year of their wood usage would heat this place for anywhere from 15 to 25 years! What a shame!

Heaterman: When you think about it, it's no wonder the manufacturers like CB, Heatmor, and all the rest are fighting so hard to keep the laws skewed in their favor. There is no way to make their basic design and operational premise burn clean. You simply can't stuff a huge firebox full of wood and let it smolder/burn/smolder/burn/smolder etc. etc. ad infinitum, ad nauseum. So they mess with the test protocol as much as possible so the results are slanted toward their method of operation. Why don't they just start building stuff that functions right? One has to think the money is good where they are at or else they don't have the engineering skills to pull it off.

Heaterman: Stack height really does nothing but move the smoke. The same amount of particulates are dumped in the air regardless. One study equated operating an OWB in your yard to be the same as having 600 people stand there and smoke a pack of cigarettes each day. I have to wonder how many people know that?

Taylor Southerland: We here on Hearth are quite biased, we

have all seen the benefit of clean-burning and much lower volumes of wood to heat our otherwise unchanged homes. The guy who is putting 25+ cords green through his OWB is saving money and that's all he cares or knows about. We, here, have seen the light that that same guy could work less cutting and more prepping of his wood, and have a cleaner appliance to heat his home the same AND not soot up a zillion cubic feet of air in the process. I'd venture to say that most on here have been the "smoke dragon" guy at one time in life and thought "there must be a better way" we did some research and found this site in the process and here we are now with our OWB hate, myself included.