



Wood Burning Appliance Review Form

The purpose of Regulation 4.1 is to protect the public health from unhealthy levels of smoke.

At least 26 EPA identified air toxics are present in wood smoke, including dioxins, Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and ultrafine Particulate Matter. These substances are released both inside and outside the home.

New wood burning devices in Mendocino County must meet one the following standards:

1. NSPS certified – NSPS certified devices are those that are approved under CFR Title 40, Part 60, Subpart AAA. This is the EPA regulatory standard - NOT the voluntary standard.
2. Pellet Stoves/inserts – Pellet devices equipped and designed to burn wood pellets.
3. Devices approved by a California air pollution control agency under a program designed to reduce emissions.

There is no special exemption or individual evaluations of wood burning devices. It is up to the applicant or vendor to provide proof of compliance with District Regulations.

Installation of Outdoor Wood Boilers (*sometimes called hydronic heaters*) is categorically banned (4.1-400 [b]). These devices cannot be installed.

Devices that meet the EPA “Burn Wise” or voluntary standards by definition fail to meet the NSPS standard and therefore are not allowed. Devices must meet the NSPS standard.

The District can provide a list of devices which have been allowed because they are approved elsewhere in California – however the District will not do research or review test results.

New wood burning devices of any type cannot be installed in commercial, industrial or multifamily buildings.

The Wood Stove Checklist is designed to help applicants though the process of purchasing and installing a compliant wood burning device.
