

News from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

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New Law in Effect Banning Sale of Older, Uncertified Outdoor Wood Boilers

Concord, NH – As many in New Hampshire prepare for the winter heating season, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) would like to notify those considering purchasing an outdoor wood hydronic heater (commonly known as outdoor wood boilers (OWBs)) that a new state law regulating these units became effective on July 1, 2017.

Specifically, the law prohibits the sale, purchase, or installation of any residential OWB that is not certified by EPA. These EPA-certified units are high efficiency, cleaner burning devices that will save the consumer money on wood. For commercial units, only those qualified by New York State's Energy Research Development Authority may be legally bought, sold or purchased. Importantly, all OWBs that have been legally installed in prior years are grandfathered by the new law and may remain in place. Also, all pellet-fueled OWBs are exempt from the statute. NHDES will be implementing an outreach and education plan to get the word out to NH citizens that non-certified OWBs, whether new or used, may no longer be bought, sold or re-installed at new locations. Violators could face fines of up to \$250 and would be required to remove the OWB.

Old, inefficient OWBs are often significant local sources of nuisance smoke and can negatively impact people's health. Airborne particulate matter from wood smoke and other sources has been linked to an increased risk of cardiovascular disease.

For more information, please contact Evan Mulholland, Air Resources Division, Compliance Bureau Administrator at Evan.Mulholland@des.nh.gov or 603-271-0882.