

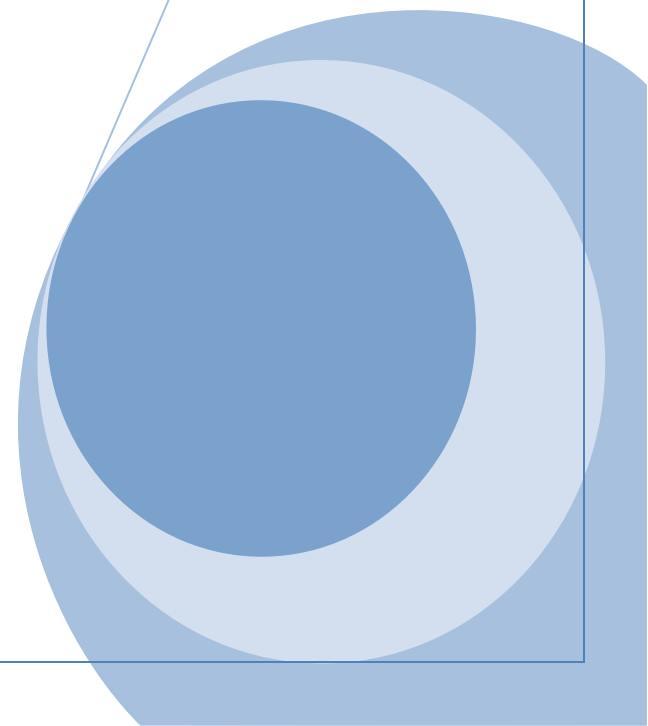
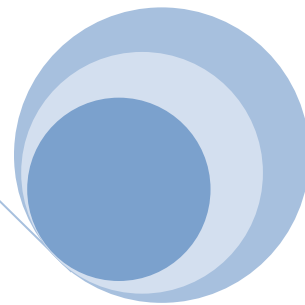
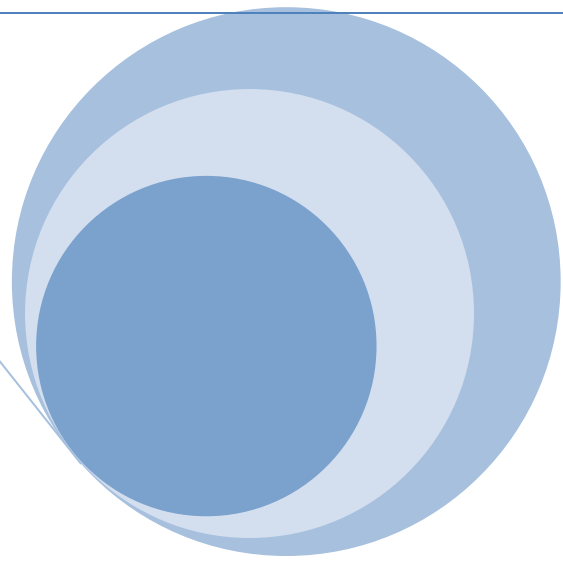
# **The Wood Smoke Activist Network**

**January 2012 Newsletter**

**Educating the world about the health and climate impacts of  
wood smoke and combustion aerosols.**

**Editor: Shirley Brandie**

**1/1/2012**



# *The Wood Smoke Activist Network*

## WOOD SMOKE ISSUES

Volume 4, Issue 1  
January, 2012

Editor: [Shirley Brandie](#)  
Co-Editor: [Julie Mellum](#)

### *Fighting Wood Smoke Pollution from the Grassroots to Government Level*

#### **Welcome!**

We hope that this newsletter will give you the information and inspiration you need. Regain clean air to breathe and eliminate the wood burning that is affecting your health and your home environment.

Please pass this issue on to others in need of help and suggest that they send an email to [s.brandie@hotmail.com](mailto:s.brandie@hotmail.com) to be added to the mailing list.

#### **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to educate public officials, government and all citizens about wood smoke as a major form of hazardous air pollution that affects our health, use of our property, water, crops, livestock, the environment and climate change. We urge citizens everywhere to press for legislative changes to call wood smoke a public nuisance under state health codes and to ban all wood burning.”



## News-worthy Links

### Gov't Gets More Aggressive To Curtail Wood Stove Smoke

**Excerpt:** Wood stoves are one of the biggest — if not the biggest — contributor to this problem in our area.

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### Smoke Chemistry

**Excerpt:** Keep in mind, there are thousands of chemicals in smoke so the chemical composition of smoke is extremely complex.

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### Washington State grants

**Excerpt:** offering up to \$1,000 to qualified Thurston County residents who want to change to gas or electric heating systems.

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### Where there's smoke, there's sickness

**Excerpt:** The warning label on the wrapping of neatly split firewood is one we're more accustomed to seeing on cigarettes or heavy-duty chemicals: "known... to cause cancer, birth defects or reproductive harm."

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### The toxic effect of wood smoke in Tacoma

**Excerpt:** In Washington, the state Ecology Department estimates that sooty pollution from sources including wood smoke and diesel exhaust contributes to 1,100 deaths and \$190 million in health costs annually.

## **Niagara Peninsula Energy to DISPOSE OF ALL HYDRO POLES BY RESIDENTIAL BURNING**

**Submitted for publication by: Jamie Hodkin**

Under cross examining in a contentious and sometimes heated trial in Welland on Friday December 9, 2011 in regards to nuisance wood smoke from residential incineration of utility poles, NPEI CEO Brian Wilkie and VP of Operations Dan Sebert both testify that NPEI will supply poles taken out of service for firewood.

A consultant who sub-contracts for the NEPI testified random samples had been taken of various poles, all put in the same bag and sent for analysis and based on the overall average of these samples, they conclude it is safe to burn all discarded utility poles.

James Hodkin, a strong opponent to residential incineration of industrial waste, closed arguments by stating that all utility poles by law, under the Electricity Act, must conform to CSA Standards and these standards denote full treatment to 080.4 standards. As it is clearly understood that Creosote, Calcium Chromium Arsenate and Pentachlorophenol are highly toxic substances and in fact are on both Provincial and Federal Toxic lists. Hodkin is astounded and deeply troubled for the future of Niagara resident's air quality. Councilor Janice Wing who was under Summons to appear was a no-show at the trial despite her platform that she stands for an environmentally friendly Niagara.

Niagara residents may want to wear a respirator in fall, winter and spring months. In another shocking revelation, Deputy Fire Chief Jim Jessop testified that Fire Services does not routinely enforce the Ontario Fire Code as it pertains to Solid Fuel Burning Appliances and it is only on request that inspections be done.

Chief Building Inspector John Castrilli's testimony contradicted Jim Jessop's position and testimony and stated firemen are required to inspect a new wood stove installation.

Wood Burner activists across the country are perplexed with this latest revelation and that there is absolutely no accountability from the MOE in the matter as Officer Paul Widmeyer refused to answer nearly every question under examination, quoting legislation that permitted him to stay silent, something that was equivalent to pleading the fifth.

## Why the Whispers about Woodsmoke?

Every community has Woodsmoke. Everyone is exposed to Woodsmoke. Everyone is harmed by the toxic cancer causing chemicals found in Woodsmoke emissions that permeate communities, destroys our environment, our quality of life, and our health.

Why the whispers about a deadly airborne pollutant that is associated with Asthma, COPD, Cancer, Cardiovascular, Cardiopulmonary, respiratory and Stroke?

Why whisper about a deadly form of pollution that takes your breath away and enters your home, seeping into every miniscule crevice? Why the whispers when we know that the very young, fragile elderly, those with compromised immune systems and those with pre-existing lung and heart disease are most vulnerable to Woodsmoke?

We must do everything we can to end this assault to our health and environment from Wood burning and all forms of biomass burning.

Why whisper about the fact your family is being made ill from Wood burning stoves, Wood burning fireplaces, pellet stoves, OWBs, and all outdoor open air Wood burning devices and appliances?

Why whisper about something that is even more lethal than tobacco smoke?

Why whisper about toxic plumes of Woodsmoke that pollute your neighbourhood daily?

Woodsmoke is responsible for days of absenteeism from school and work. Woodsmoke from one Wood burning device can drift aimlessly affecting everyone within its path for miles.

Woodsmoke is responsible for millions of world-wide premature deaths. Woodsmoke lingers in the air hours after burning has ceased.

It's time to quit whispering about Woodsmoke and start doing something to end it!! Wood burning from all biomass burning in urban communities must be banned. No exceptions.

Whispering won't end Woodsmoke Pollution. Taking pro-active action to prohibit it, will!!

We don't whisper about AIDS. It kills. We don't whisper about bullying. It kills. We don't whisper about cancer. It kills. We don't whisper about drug abuse. It kills. We don't whisper about Tobacco. It kills.

We don't whisper about many things that harm and destroy people we love and care about so why whisper about Woodsmoke? It kills!!!

**Posted By:** Linda Baker Beaudin, Air Is Precious, Cornwall

## 12-02-11 Outdoor wood furnace on a windy day



[http://www.youtube.com/user/GoReps?email=share\\_video\\_user](http://www.youtube.com/user/GoReps?email=share_video_user)

This is what can just as easily happen to any of you!  
Until municipalities commit to the power they have to create bylaws to protect their residents, this is what many of you will be experiencing soon.

The only way to prevent this is to speak to your mayor and council members and convince them that a bylaw is necessary. Also, please remember that the usual thing they do is to 'grandfather' the existing appliances. So, do it now. Don't wait until it is too late!

# Toxic Gifts.....Toxic Air....Both Harm!

**By Linda Baker Beaudin Air Is Precious**

At any time of gift giving, we make the wisest choices possible to better protect the health and well-being our children, family and friends.

Awareness has been made regarding Formaldehyde found in nail polish and other toxins in clothing and toys children play with. Based on medical and scientific data that state how deadly these chemicals can be, we opt to choose safer, healthier alternatives, abandoning products that could cause harm. We avoid toxic gifts.

Yet another life threatening issue being sadly neglected and overlooked is the deadly cancer causing toxins from Woodsmoke. Woodsmoke contains Formaldehyde, Mercury, Lead, Dioxins and many other toxic chemicals that are airborne and permeate our neighbourhoods each day. There is no escaping Woodsmoke as it enters our lungs and our home causing irreparable damage to our health.

Woodsmoke in our community air means we are being gravely assaulted against our will. Municipalities that condone, ignore and disregard the grave dangers of residential Woodsmoke pollution are placing our lives at risk. Toxic air....is a life and death issue!!!!

Asthma, COPD, Stroke, Cardiovascular, Cancer, SIDs, Cardiopulmonary and premature death are associated with exposure to Woodsmoke's toxic airborne emissions (PM 2.5).

When inhaled fine particulate matter (PM 2.5) goes deeply into the lungs causing irreparable damage. The damage from exposure to Woodsmoke can be immediate or long-term. Wood burning does have dire consequences for everyone who inhales its toxic emissions.

Wisely, we are seeing a fundamental shift in the way that society views the exposure to toxic chemicals. No longer are we willing to be targets of toxic pollution. That shift must also include our awareness and concern regarding the airborne toxic contaminants found in Woodsmoke. But, unbelievably, our elected leaders are still doing nothing to help us fight and end this unnecessary, unneeded, and killer of the air we breathe which takes lives every day.

Wood burning stoves, Wood burning fireplaces, pellet stoves, OWBs, and all outdoor Wood burning devices and appliances must be added to the list of deadly toxins that saturate our urban areas, destroy our health, the quality of our life and our environment.

Take immediate action today in your community by demanding by-laws be adopted to ban all outdoor open air burning from fire pits, and all wood burning devices. Take pro-active action to see that regulations be implemented to phase out the use of all wood burning fire places, wood burning stoves, wood pellet stoves and OWBs. Demand that new home codes exclude all wood burning devices.

We do not want toxic gifts. We do not want toxic air to breathe!!

Most gifts are wonderful to receive, but no gift can equal the one of fresh pure air that is woodsmoke-free.

## Excerpts from emails sent to me:

- I have a neighbor who uses a wood burning fireplace. The smoke does go up but rather drops down to our house and we can't open the window or doors. The smell is killing us.

-My neighbors installed a wood stove this winter. When they use the stove on a slow burn, which is most of the time, the smoke fills my house & yard with smoke.

I contacted my township code enforcer, the stove was brought up to code. I have talked to my neighbors regarding the smoke; they continue to use the stove 24 hrs a day. Every evening around 11pm, til I call them in the morning smoke is filling my house.

When I let my dogs out they come in the house smelling of smoke. My furniture smells from the smoke, the inside of my truck smells from smoke, co-workers have complained I smell from smoke.

I now wake up with headaches, sore throat & have started to have nose bleeds.

I have written letters & called all my township officials, they never contacted me; there is nothing they can do if the stove meets all requirements.

Nothing stops the neighbors from using scrap wood, wet & green wood, which they use.

-One of the council members bought a house with one of these OWB's....guess who wants me to shut up???

-I have a neighbor that consistently burns a wood stove for heat with UNSEASONED wood and WET wood. We have involved our town, our health department and now we started calling the cops to force them to shut it off. Massive amounts of smoke come out of their flute/chimney and into our house. We had two rotties (not the same lineage) that died, one from lung cancer (she was 9 years old) and the other from a lung infection (he was only five and half months old). The cops informed us that our neighbor has the stove on full blast but the house isn't warm & they informed our neighbors that too much smoke and horrible smell is coming out of the house and into the house. I am not sure if our neighbors are just that stupid or simply don't care. We have been dealing with this for five years and finally had enough; we first asked them nicely and that didn't work.

-I have a neighbor directly upwind of me who burns 24 x 7, and emits large amounts of smoke, much of which blows directly into my house and onto my property. It reeks whenever I open the door, and we're starting to really notice health effects such as very irritated eyes and throat membranes.

-So our neighbors decided it would be funny to torment us even more with brush burning and campfires that following summer. Thirty seven weekends in a row our property was saturated in smoke. I ended up in the hospital with a carbon monoxide level in my blood in July, lost my voice after one episode and basically was made very sick the entire summer by these vicious people. The people across the street have a mega giant chimenea that they take to burning trash in on Sunday mornings at 4:00 a.m. The smell would kill you and it hangs around our property for hours. No official has been out to our house to witness this. They won't come out beyond working hours and the burners know it and take full advantage.

-My neighbour to the west has a 50 year old 1000 ft<sup>2</sup> bungalow with a chimney lower than my main floor. He has a new gas fired water boiler but refuses to use it due to the perceived savings of his wood stove. Since 2007 we have suffered with wood smoke contamination of the neighbourhood.

-I have a constant cough, sore throat, headache, chest aching, eyes burning. With severe arthritis in my spine and hands, to open and close windows between smoke attacks is painfully trying and takes quite some time to complete. Time and energy are best used in more enjoyable activities than passively and ineffectively defending one's air quality. I should be healing instead of further suffering. After finding a mass in my breast, coming on quite suddenly, I am in shock at how my health has been turned due to this constant onslaught. I am angry.

## Legal Help

**\*\*Note to any legal firm that can provide help with residential wood smoke issues and wishes to add their name to this page.\*\***

**Please email Shirley with your state/province, name of firm, who to contact (email address & telephone)**

NOTICE of FLORIDA and KENTUCKY ATTORNEY WILLING TO CONSIDER WOOD SMOKE CASES, perhaps on a contingency.

Attorney **Sherri Myers** is a Florida attorney who is also licensed to practice in Kentucky and in 2 federal courts. She specializes in the rights of persons with disabilities, many of whom may be protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA, the civil rights law that is intended to ensure that citizens with disabilities such as asthma, for example, have “access” to public spaces such as city parks, streets and sidewalks. A federal court in northern Iowa ordered the town of Mallard, Iowa, to disallow wood and leaf burning, because the smoke presented a physical barrier to a small child with severe asthma, making her unable to use city streets and sidewalks.

Sherri is interested in legal issues that impact persons with multiple chemical sensitivity and other environmental illnesses. She also serves on the Pensacola City Council and in that role is working to influence governmental policies on environmental issues. She is the Advocacy Coordinator for the Center for Independent Living Disability Resource Center. Sherri lives in Pensacola, which is located in the panhandle of Florida. Contact her at [sfmada@aol.com](mailto:sfmada@aol.com). Phone: (850) 484-0902

## Legal Help

Outdoor Wood Boilers have the potential to create nuisances or harm human health by releasing unsafe levels of Particulate Pollution and other cancer causing air contaminants.

Scientific studies and lab testing have shown that some Outdoor Wood Boilers exceed EPA safe air thresholds at levels that can cause both short and long term health problems, even death.

The American Lung Association states that anyone can be affected by particle pollution but several groups are most at risk:

- Children under 18
- Adults 65 and older
- Anyone with chronic lung disease, such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, or emphysema
- Anyone with a cardiovascular disease, such as high blood pressure, coronary artery disease, or congestive heart failure and diabetes.

Joe Ritch an attorney in Corpus Christi Texas who specializes in nuisance and product liability believes everyone should be able to live in their home and enjoy their property without fear of harm.

If you or someone you love is being adversely affected by the contaminants emitted from an Outdoor Wood Boiler you may be eligible for representation with no out of pocket expenses. To have your case evaluated please call 361-885-7500 and ask for Joseph Ritch.

## **JOIN OUR NEW NETWORK!**

**Our cause has gained great momentum, with more people joining the anti-wood smoke efforts weekly. Our focus now is to help everyone connect with others near us nation-wide in the US and Canada. We must unite in pressuring our municipalities and governments toward wood smoke regulations as soon as possible.**

**Therefore, I am looking for **Volunteer Wood Smoke Coordinators** in EVERY STATE & PROVINCE to field and manage wood smoke complaints and issues in their own state or province.**

**The goal is to share information nation-wide and to focus on wood smoke regulation.**

**I think it's safe to say that anyone reading this newsletter probably has issues with wood smoke.**

**If you are willing to give your name and email address so we can form a visible network please email [Shirley](#) or [Julie](#).**

**Perhaps you would be willing to help with letter writing, flyer passing, etc. No money is required, just a willingness to be someone others can contact for support or more involvement.**

**Contact Julie at [info@takebacktheair.com](mailto:info@takebacktheair.com) if you would like your name to appear on our state/province-wide contacts page or if you'd like to become your state or province's "representative" to coordinate contacts within your state or province. Contact Julie, also, if you'd like to learn who else is fighting wood smoke in your area and if you want concrete suggestions on how to get results.**

## Network Representative List

(Blank lines are yet to be filled)

Alberta	<a href="mailto:cleanairmattersinalberta@gmail.com">cleanairmattersinalberta@gmail.com</a>	Cathy
BC	<a href="mailto:vmorell@telus.net">vmorell@telus.net</a>	Vicki
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New York	<a href="mailto:bjlich@live.com">bjlich@live.com</a>	Clean Air Rights for Everyone
North Carolina		
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Vermont	<a href="mailto:biomass.greenwash@gmail.com">biomass.greenwash@gmail.com</a>	Josh
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Wisconsin	<a href="mailto:wkwsan@hotmail.com">wkwsan@hotmail.com</a>	Linda
Wyoming		

CO Level	Action	CO Level	Action
1-4ppm	Normal levels in human tissues produced by body.	50ppm	US OSHA recommended 8 hour maximum workplace exposure Maximum NCI level for Unvented appliances
3-7ppm	6% increase in the rate of admission in hospitals of non-elderly for asthma. (Sheppard-1999)	70ppm	1st Alarm level of UL2034 approved CO Alarms- 2-4 hours 3rd Alarm level for NSI 3000 - 30 seconds NSI 3000 Low Level Monitor cannot be silenced by reset button
5-6ppm	Significant risk of low birth rate if exposed during last trimester (Ritz & Yu-1999)	100ppm	Maximum NCI CO level during run cycle in all vented appliances(stable) Maximum NCI CO for all oil appliances
5ppm	1st visual display on NSI 3000 Low Level CO Monitor	200ppm	First listed level(established in 1930) healthy adults will have symptoms-headaches, nausea NIOSH & OSHA recommend evacuation of workplace Maximum "Air Free" CO for vented water heater and unvented heaters (ANSI Z21) UL approved alarms must sound between 30 – 60 minutes(NSI 3000 – 30 seconds)
9ppm	ASHRAE standard for allowable spillage from vented appliances, indoors, for 8 hours exposure daily. EPA standard for outdoors for 8 hours and a maximum 3 times per year. (Clean Air Act)	400ppm	Healthy adults will have headaches within 1-2 hours. Life threatening after 3 hours Maximum "Air Free" CO in all vented heating appliances (ANSI Z21) Maximum EPA levels for industrial flue exhaust UL Alarms must alarm within 15 minutes (NSI 3000 – 30 seconds) Maximum recommended light-off CO for all appliances – NCI (except oil)
10ppm	Outdoor level of CO found associated with a significant increase in heart disease deaths and hospital admissions for congestive heart failure. (JAMA, Penny) 1st ambient level occupants should be notified-NCI Protocol	800ppm	Healthy adults will have nausea, dizziness, convulsions within 45 minutes. Unconscious within 2 hours then Death(established in 1930) Maximum "Air Free" CO for unvented gas ovens (ANSI Z21)
15-20ppm	First level World Health Organization lists as causing impaired performance, decrease in exercise time and vigilance 1st Alarm level for NSI 3000 Low Level CO Monitor-5 minutes	800ppm+	Death in less than one hour
25ppm	Maximum allowable in a Parking Garage (International Mechanical Code)	2000ppm	EPA standard for new vehicle emissions
27ppm	21% increase in cardio respiratory complaints (Kurt-1978)	3000ppm+	Typical emissions from propane lift trucks, gasoline powered tools etc. Death in less than 30 minutes.
30ppm	Earliest onset of exercise induced angina (World Health Organization) 1st visual display on UL2034 approved CO Alarm-Must not alarm before 30 days		
35ppm	US NIOSH recommended 8 hour maximum workplace exposure EPA standard for outdoors for 1 hour and a maximum of 1 time per year Level many fire departments wear breathing apparatus before entering 2nd ambient level occupants should be notified and space ventilated 2nd Alarm level for NSI 3000 Low Level Monitor-5 minutes		

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**All burning results in very fine micro particulates and there is no safe level of this asbestos sized, dangerous air pollutant. Solid fuels, such as pellets and especially wood, produce more smoke and emit more fine particulate air pollutants than cleaner fuels such as gas and electricity.**

## **Bylaws & Bans**

**\*\*I am beginning to compile a list of municipalities that are acting on wood smoke emissions. Please [send me a link](#) to any that you find to be added to the list.\*\***

**Golden, BRITISH COLUMBIA**- passed a bylaw prohibiting the installation of any solid fuel burning appliance (Bylaw # 1150).

**Hampstead, QUEBEC** - banned all new installations of wood stoves and ordered existing wood stoves to be removed within 7 years. (Bylaw # 729-2)

**Montreal, QUEBEC (Apr. 29/2009)** - no further installation of any wood burning stoves or fireplaces.

**Suffolk, NEW JERSEY** - bans all OWBs within 1000 feet of another house.

**Stillwater, MINNESOTA** - bans all wood burning or boiling stoves - existing and future (March 11, 2010).

**Pleasant Prairie, WISCONSIN** - bans all new outdoor wood furnaces and wood boilers.

**Savage City, MINNESOTA** - prohibits outdoor wood boilers (OWBs).

**Burnsville, MINNESOTA** - banned OWBs December 2008.

**New Prague, MINNESOTA** - total ban on OWBs.

**Grand Forks, BRITISH COLUMBIA** - The bylaw states that “no person shall create a nuisance using a wood burning appliance in such a way as to disturb the health and comfort of two or more persons from separate dwellings.” Enforcement would be complaint driven and fines could be up to \$500.

**Houston, BRITISH COLUMBIA** - requires uncertified appliances to be removed by 2010.

**St. Thomas, ONTARIO** - prohibits the use of outdoor fireplaces including wood boilers and chimeneas.

**Sarnia, ONTARIO** - has set stringent restrictions on setback distances for outdoor boiler operations from the nearest dwellings and property lines.

**Nation, ONTARIO** - outdoor wood boiler specifications have been set which include minimum lot sizes, distance from property lines and distances from property buildings.

**Elmira, NEW YORK** - Ban on smoke and other deleterious fumes that cross property lines onto the property of another. Fines are \$250 for a second offence or a jail term. Best ban in the country!

**Marion, IOWA** -prohibits new outdoor wood-burning boilers within city limits and to regulate existing setups. All existing boilers must be registered by Jan. 1; have smokestacks two feet higher than any residential roof within 300 feet of the system; and be removed when the property changes hands.

**CONNECTICUT - Avon, Granby, Tolland, Hebron, Woodbridge, South Windsor, Portland, Norfolk, Ridgefield, Haddam, Cheshire, West Hartford, Hamden, North Haven and New Fairfield** – 15 towns have banned outdoor wood furnaces in order to protect the health and property values of their citizens.

**Inver Grove Heights, MINNESOTA** - Nov. 15, 2010 - council bans all OWBs. All OWBs must be removed from properties by Oct. 01, 2011.

**The STATE of WASHINGTON** - has laws to address neighbor's wood smoke. According to the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, “generating excessive smoke is not only unneighborly, it’s illegal. Under state regulations, smoke from a person’s chimney cannot exceed 20 percent opacity for six consecutive minutes. Greater smoke densities could result in fines from air pollution control officials. It is always illegal to smoke out your neighbor. Everyone has a right to breathe clean air. If smoke from your fire is affecting your neighbors, it is considered a nuisance and subject to enforcement action.”

**Salmon Arm, BRITISH COLUMBIA** - No person shall install an Outdoor Solid-Fuel Combustion Appliance in or about any premises.

**Huron East, ONTARIO** - Bylaw passed - all new OWB's to have minimum setback allowances and lot sizes. A great improvement over what they had before – nothing.

**Nappanee - Bans Outdoor Wood Furnaces**

**Twinsburg, OHIO** - Council voted 7-0 in favor of adding outdoor wood-burning furnaces or boilers to a list of items that are restricted.

**Marion County, INDIANA** - OWB ban.

**Evansville, INDIANA** – OWB ban.

**Long Beach, INDIANA** - OWB ban.

**City of LaPorte, INDIANA** - OWB ban.

**Michigan City, INDIANA** - OWB ban.

## *Editorial*

**January...** Here we are in yet another year that has seen but few advances in our pleas for help to avoid living in a wood smoke filled home and becoming sick due to there being no control measures in place by so many municipalities.

I find it hard to believe that all members of a council do not care. I know many that do and have worked very hard to try to protect their residents.

The issue, in my opinion, is that those members who do not agree with a bylaw or ban simply do not know what wood smoke is comprised of and the damage it does to those who are forced to breathe what a neighbor burns. It is vital that you send them the information they need to understand the problem. It is also essential that they see and smell for themselves what you see and smell daily. Photos and videos are the best way of showing them the conditions that you live with. Please, start now to accumulate the photos, videos and information that need to be presented to them.

No one can solve your problem without your direct input. You have to make up your mind that the smoke has to be ended and do the work needed to get the job done. Do not back down. If you do you are setting yourself and your family up for continuous smoke-filled days and nights.

Take my word for it. Your municipality is the answer..... the only answer in the foreseeable future, unless you are prepared to take legal action to end your neighbor's burning. That doesn't guarantee that another neighbor might take up the habit. So, as you can see, municipal bylaws are the best answer.

*Shirley*

## BOZO of the Month



(In my opinion)

Anola, Manitoba

How would you like to be living in these conditions? Apparently, the council states that they should look more closely at their bylaws when they were presented with these photos. You think???



Incredibly, nothing has been done to help this family that is forced to live with the smoke and stench. Their lives are basically destroyed by this municipality's lack of concern. There are no words to describe how sick these photos make me feel. I'm sure you must feel the same. Too bad the members of bylaw enforcement aren't unlucky enough to have the burner for a neighbor!

**Bylaw amendments.... Have they heard of them?**

*Shirley*

## Photos and Videos

Just a few photos to show to your public officials and others you want to convince that only a ban on smoke release will change this!

[Click here for videos](#)



[To see some photos that victims of wood smoke have sent click here](#)

To have your own photo listed, send an email to: [s.brandie@hotmail.com](mailto:s.brandie@hotmail.com)

## **LINKS & MORE**

[Click here for a heart-breaking story & video of a family subjected to wood smoke.](#)

[Click here to see Clive Stott's peaceful, but meaningful protest of forestry burning in Australia.](#)

[My PowerPoint Show](#)

[Video sent by email](#)

[Chase, B.C. video](#)

		<p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#"><u><b>Wood Burner Smoke</b></u></a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Editor's Site</p>
	 <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://cleanairtas.com"><u><b>cleanairtas.com</b></u></a></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#"><u><b>Freedom of Air</b></u></a></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#"><u><b>TAKE BACK THE AIR</b></u></a></p>	
		 <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#"><u><b>RAWSEP</b></u></a></p>



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“Burning 2 cords of wood produces the same amount of mutagenic (capable of causing cell mutations that can cause cancer) particles as driving 13 gasoline-powered cars 10,000 miles each at 20 miles/gallon. These figures indicate that the worst contribution that an individual is likely to make to the mutagenicity of the air is using a wood stove for heating, followed by a diesel car.” (Dr. Joellen Lewtas, Contribution of Source Emissions of the Mutagenicity of Ambient Urban Air Particles. U.S., EPA, #91-131.6, 1991)

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## **Canadian Action Activities**

Wood smoke is a major problem in all of America and Canada. National efforts are gaining momentum. Regardless of where we live, our actions should focus on getting our national governments to regulate wood smoke. To make an impact, if each reader calls or emails each of these contacts, we can move mountains.

Go for it now!

Health Canada assesses scientific evidence about the health effects of wood smoke and makes this information available to Canadians. Health Canada is also working with other government departments to determine the best ways to minimize risks associated with wood smoke.

In addition, Health Canada is a contributor to the *Burn it Smart!* Campaign sponsored by Natural Resources Canada.

**Environment Canada:** [www.ec.gc.ca/cleanair](http://www.ec.gc.ca/cleanair)

**Health Canada:** [air@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:air@hc-sc.gc.ca)

Air Health Effects Division, Safe Environments Program, Health Canada  
400 Cooper Street Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9 Telephone: (613) 957-1876

Natural Resources Canada [Burn it Smart!](#) Sir William Logan Building,  
11th Floor, 580 Booth Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0E4

Write or email to your local council & MPs to request that they create or amend a bylaw to cover nuisance smoke. Preferably, a ban on all wood burning in residential areas.

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The Ontario Ministry of the Environment has released the latest news on Smog  
<http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/air/smog/index.php>

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**[Click here for the Canadian Bill of Rights](#)** You can apply for a review [here](#).

## **U.S. Action Activities**

### **URGENT—Immediate Action ALWAYS Needed**

**A new EPA-certified wood stove promotion gives a 30% tax credit and a huge discount to the public. It is being funded by stimulus money from the US government. This flies in the face of the known hazards of wood smoke that the EPA acknowledges on their website. If we don't stop our states' stimulus money from funding this major promotion, it will be next to impossible to regulate or ban wood burning in any form.**

**If you have never protested wood smoke or called your public officials before, this is the time to do it!**

- **Contact your US Senators and Representatives, as well as your state Senators and Representatives and City Council members. Ask them to see that the stimulus money does not go towards this promotion. It is crucial to let your elected officials know that you don't want the stimulus money used for this promotion in your community—but only to apply to gas or electric technology. (California has a change-out program that only allows swap-outs to gas or electric.)**
- **Let them know that wood smoke is a major health hazard and is a major contributor to global warming.**
- **Send an email to others and ask them for their help too. (See **suggested email below**).**
- **Be sure to call your US legislators and State legislators and City Council Members, to alert them to the problem and asking for their help too in keeping new EPA certified wood burning equipment out of your community, even if a state-wide promotion allows them.**
- **If we don't stop this unthinkable promotion, there is little hope for a healthy legacy for our children and grandchildren.**

**Action #1-** Suggested message for calling and emailing U.S. legislators and state legislators. Please also relay on to others and urge them to contact others.

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**Date:**

**Dear (elected official):**

Please use your influence to disallow stimulus money to be used for EPA wood stove promotion in **(your state and/or your community.)**

According to the EPA's own website, wood smoke is a killer responsible for premature deaths nation-wide at a rate of 3% of the total deaths every year from fine particle pollution. (Harvard School of Public Health). That is close to 73,000 people in the U.S. each year--an epidemic! Wood smoke is extremely hazardous for children, the elderly and especially those with asthma. Asthma is already the number one reason for school absenteeism. It is even implicated in sudden infant death syndrome.

Our states are looking for ways to limit fine particulate pollution and better air quality. This should be a "no-brainer." Wood smoke emits over 9,600 % more lead than natural gas, according to the EPA's own data. It also emits arsenic, mercury, formaldehyde, polyaromatic hydrocarbons and dioxins, persistent organic compounds that do not break down in the environment or in human lungs, crops, soil and water supply. See <http://BurningIssues.org> for the facts.

Please do not allow stimulus money to be used for promoting more pollution.

**(Sign your name and contact info)**

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## About the Editors:

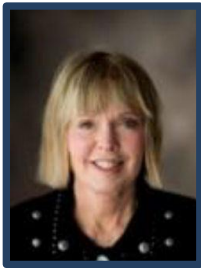
### Shirley Brandie



Ontario Director of Canadian Clean Air Alliance <http://canadiancleanairalliance.ca>

She is retired from a medical laboratory and currently doing in-depth research on the effects of wood smoke on health and the environment.

Web site: <http://WoodBurnerSmoke.net>



### Julie Mellum Minneapolis

Julie is a Realtor who knows that wood smoke devalues real estate as a “material fact” that can affect a potential buyer’s use and enjoyment of your property. She continually researches the latest science on wood smoke and is a member of the Edina, MN Community Health Committee.

Web site: [Take Back the Air](#)

**If you would like to have your wood smoke story published, [click here to email it.](#)**

**\* We do not accept responsibility for errors in articles submitted for publication. It is the responsibility of the author to ensure the facts are, to the best of their knowledge, correct. \*\***

**\*\* Please note that articles submitted for publication may be edited for grammar, punctuation and sentence structure.**

**Send an email to [s.brandie@hotmail.com](mailto:s.brandie@hotmail.com) to be added to the mailing list.**