

# The Monmouth County Board of Health

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To: Municipal Administrators in Monmouth County  
From: William Simmons, Environmental Health Coordinator, Monmouth County Health Department  
Date: December 11, 2007  
RE: Outdoor Woodburning Boilers

Please distribute this memo immediately to your township clerks, construction officials and sub-code officials involved in issuing permits for Outdoor Woodburning Boilers (also known as Outdoor Furnaces, Outdoor Wood Heaters, or Outdoor WoodFired Hydronic Heaters).

Outdoor woodburning boilers are comprehensive heating units that replace oil burning or natural gas units; they cost between \$5000 to \$15,000. They are not indoor wood-burning stoves.

The NJDEP has determined that outdoor woodburning boilers in New Jersey must comply with NJAC 7:27-3, "Control and Prohibition of Smoke from Combustion of Fuel." **This regulation mandates that stationary indirect heat exchangers, such as outdoor woodburning boilers, produce no smoke at all times, including startup.**

A zero smoke emission policy makes it most likely that operating these units at a residence can violate state regulations (a DEP Compliance Alert posted on their website also states that operating a woodburning boiler is the number one violation found at farms <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/enforcement/advisories/2007-04.pdf> ).

**There are substantial fines associated with their use should they produce any visible smoke.**

**Please contact the Monmouth County Health Department Air Pollution Program (732-431-7456) before issuing any construction permits for an outdoor woodburning boiler, or if you have any additional questions.**

For more information on the issues associated with emissions from these units, please see the report "Assessment of Outdoor Woodburning Boilers" by the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM) at [http://www.4cleanair.org/OWB-NESCAUM-Report\\_March2006.pdf](http://www.4cleanair.org/OWB-NESCAUM-Report_March2006.pdf) .