



# The Monmouth County Board of Health

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Public Health Coordinator  
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To: Municipal Administrators in Monmouth County  
From: William Simmons, Environmental Health Coordinator, Monmouth County Health  
Department  
Date: September 19, 2008  
RE: Outdoor Woodburning Boilers (OWB)

Please distribute this memo 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 Wood-Fired Hydronic Heaters).

It is likely that operating these units at a residence can violate state regulations. A NJDEP Compliance Alert can be found at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/advisories/2008-05.pdf>.

OWBs 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." OWBs, will be in violation of these regulations when they are observed emitting smoke for more that 3 minutes in a 30 minute period.

There are substantial fines associated with their use should they produce any visible smoke beyond this amount.

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 DEP's webpage "Wood Burning in New Jersey" at <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/baqp/woodburning.html>.

The report "Assessment of Outdoor Woodburning Boilers" by the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM) can be accessed at [http://www.4cleanair.org/OWB-NESCAUM-Report\\_March2006.pdf](http://www.4cleanair.org/OWB-NESCAUM-Report_March2006.pdf).