

U.S. EPA's Voluntary Program for Wood-Burning Fireplaces

There are approximately 29 million wood-burning fireplaces in the U.S. These and other woodburning appliances can contribute to wintertime particle pollution.

While EPA does not regulate the manufacture or use of wood-burning fireplaces, the agency's voluntary program for fireplaces can be an effective tool to help reduce particle pollution.

About the program:

The fireplace program encourages the manufacture and sale of new cleaner wood-burning fireplaces and retrofit devices for use in existing fireplaces. EPA-qualified fireplaces emit 70 percent less pollution than unqualified models, and EPA-qualified retrofits may also significantly reduce emissions from existing fireplaces.

<u>To participate</u> in the program, manufacturers have their fireplaces or retrofit devices tested and certified by an independent laboratory.

<u>To qualify models</u> under the program, EPA reviews the test results and determines whether a fireplace or retrofit device meets the program emission levels. Qualified units are marked with a hangtag and listed on the Burn Wise website at: <u>http://www.epa.gov/burnwise/fireplacelist.html</u>.

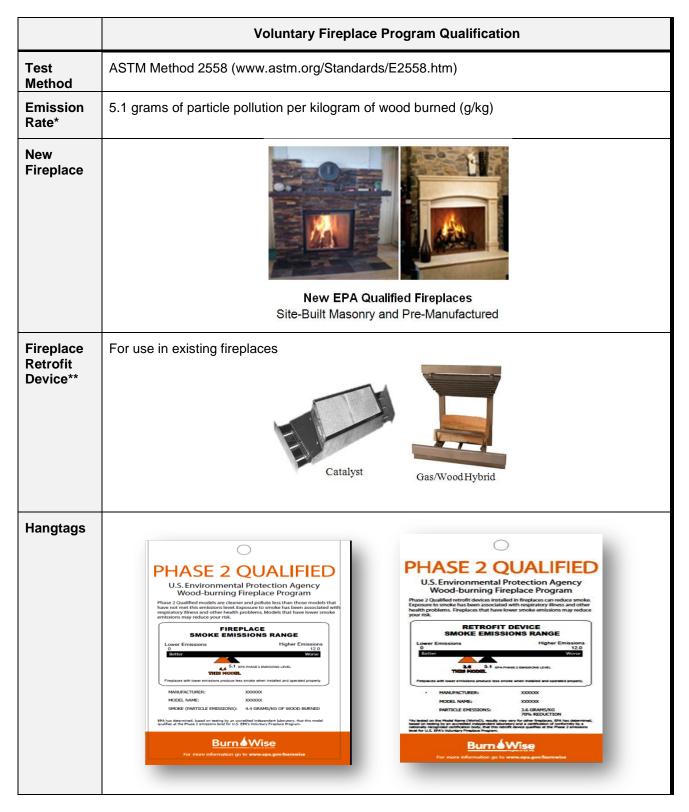
How states, tribes and local agencies can participate:

In communities where wood burning is allowed in fireplaces, EPA encourages:

- Installing EPA-qualified fireplaces in new construction and remodeling
- Using EPA-qualified retrofit devices in existing fireplaces
- Converting to gas alternatives
- Educating people to burn only dry, seasoned wood with 20% moisture or less

Resources are available at:

- EPA's Burn Wise Website: http://www.epa.gov/burnwise
- Fireplace Program Frequently Asked Questions: <u>http://www.epa.gov/burnwise/pdfs/fireplaceqa.pdf</u>
- Strategies for Reducing Residential Wood Smoke: <u>http://www.epa.gov/burnwise/strategies.html</u>



* The emission limit for the voluntary fireplace program is based on the amount of wood burned.** EPA qualification is based on a retrofit device tested in a specific fireplace; results may vary for other fireplaces.