

# Wood-Burning Stoves: An Efficient Home Option

By Doug DuPont  
Connecticut Appliance and  
Fireplace Distributors, LLC

In today's society, we are constantly looking for ways to improve our quality of life. Wood-burning stoves and fireplaces are one simple solution. The trusty old wood heater of yesterday has become a marvel of modern heating technology.

In 1990, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) mandated strict particle emissions standards for stove manufacturers. All stoves built after 1990 were required to be EPA-certified. This means they are much more efficient **AND** environmentally friendly. A new stove or fireplace won't pollute your home's interior with smoke or other gases and you won't see much coming from your chimney either! This means that the heat energy is

being used to warm your home while burning up to one-third less firewood. The new technologies actually raise the temperature of the fire and allow you to control the rate at which the fire burns.

These new fireplaces and stoves are a perfect match for today's new energy efficient homes. By designing a centrally located fireplace or wood stove into the home you can fully heat a house of moderate size by ducting the fireplace to all areas. Plus the new, advanced model stoves and fireplaces deliver a reliable overnight burn - no more getting up to feed the fire. Also, during a power outage or other emergency where there is no power, you can still remain safe and cozy in your home with a wood-burning stove or fireplace.

## TYPES OF STOVES

There are essentially two

types of wood stoves: catalytic and non-catalytic. These terms refer to the method employed by the stove to keep them running cleanly and efficiently. Catalytic stoves use catalytic combustors while non-catalytic stoves recirculate the smoke and reburn it. Smoke isn't completely consumed in the burning process because some woods require extremely high temperatures to burn. The catalytic stove lowers the required burn temperature from 1200°F to 600°F to achieve a long, slow, controlled combustion that allows the smoke to be burned off rather than being sent up and clinging to the chimney. Recirculating, non-catalytic stoves use heavy insulation in the firebox to keep heat in, creating a very hot environment which in turn causes more complete combustion of the wood.

## SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

Today's modern wood-burning stoves and fireplaces are incredibly safe. They are required to be safety tested, and, when properly installed, they are as safe as any other modern heating system. Chimney fires used to be a big concern, but with today's new stoves and fireplaces, they have become a thing of the past.

At CAFD, our staff is fully trained and National Fireplace Institute (NFI) certified in the installation and operation of our stoves, fireplaces and chimney flues. We can help you get the natural hearth of your dreams while providing you with the peace of mind in knowing the installation was done professionally and correctly to give you years of warmth.

*Come See for Yourself!*

# "Come See For Yourself!"

CT's #1 Award-Winning Showroom for Appliances, Fireplaces & Home Electronics



Quality products  
for today's discriminating  
home builder

- Design
- Sales
- Delivery
- Hookup
- Installation
- Service



Connecticut Appliance & Fireplace Distributors

50 Graham Place, Southington, CT • 860-621-9313 • [www.cafd.com](http://www.cafd.com)  
Exit 32 off I-84, Route 10, Queen Street, next to Pilgrim Furniture