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Keep It Clean – Maintaining your wood heater is as important as maintaining your car.

At a time when the environment, greenhouse gases and carbon emissions are of great concern to us all, choosing the appropriate heating option for our home can be confusing.

Ensure the wood heating appliance you are purchasing complies with the current Australian Standard AS/NZS 4013.

Modern certified wood heaters contribute very little in the way of pollution if they are used correctly and have the added benefit of renewable resourcing. The Australian Home Heating Association (AHHA) is a supporter of Landcare Australia and has provided funding support to farm forestry projects ensuring the continuation of re-forestation and the supply of firewood to homeowners

Wood heater users have been bombarded with negative reports via the media over the last few winters concerning wood smoke. However the public has not been given the full story.

There are many contributors to poor air quality, the AHHA does not dispute that old, poorly operated wood heaters contribute to pollution, however what most reports fail to recognise is that so do all heating appliances. There is no such thing as pollution-free heating.

Keeping wood heaters maintained and the flue cleaned will give you warmth and efficient use of your wood heater throughout the colder months.

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There are many things you can do yourself that can help keep your wood heater up to scratch:

Have your wood heater serviced every year/clean the flue

Make sure you use well seasoned firewood/green wood provides lots of smoke and no heat, a waste of your money

Wood heating is safe and effective as long as you take care of it and use it correctly.

Wood heating is still the most efficient form of heating for the home with more than 1.2 million households using firewood to heat their home.

Despite some views, wood heaters are a natural and efficient way to heat your home with comparatively little damage to the environment.

5 TIPS FOR BETTER BURNING

- 1. Burn only dry, well seasoned wood**
- 2. Allow full air for 15-20 minutes after each addition of wood**
- 3. Use kindling wood and firelighters to get the fire started**
- 4. Never use petrol, kerosene or oil to start the fire**
- 5. Don't close air supply totally overnight, a little air avoids a lot of smoke.**

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