

Loss Prevention

Take a proactive approach to loss prevention!



Safe heating using a wood burning boiler for a comfortable winter.

Are you using a wood burning boiler as a heating solution? Here are some tips on reducing the risks of fire when using a wood burning boiler (also known as wood-fired boilers or hydronic heaters).

Safety checklist:

Wood burning appliances must be installed and used according to code to ensure fire and air quality safety.

- Check with your municipality or regional county municipality (RCM) to find out what regulations apply in your area, specifically whether or not you are allowed to install a wood burning boiler.
- We recommend the use of certified heating appliances. Wood burning boilers are required to comply with either US EPA or CSA B415.1-10 certification requirements¹.
- Ensure the wood burning boiler meets your insurer's and manufacturer's requirements.

- Pile wood for the day's heating at least two metres (six feet) away from the boiler and not in front of the loading door. The woodpile for the season should be at least eight metres (25 feet) away from the boiler.
- Ensure the boiler is not inside a building or a fully-enclosed space unless it is certified for that type of installation.
- Check regularly throughout the heating season to make sure there is enough water (or other heat transfer fluid).
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendation for liquid anti-freeze. If the pump fails, the antifreeze will keep pipes from freezing and prevent what could be substantial damage to your building(s).

¹ Codes of Practice for Residential Wood Burning Appliances. Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, 2012.

Talk to a broker - your best source for information and advice

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