



## FNSB Air Quality Improvement Program

### NOTICE OF RESTRICTIONS FOR SOLID FUEL BURNING APPLIANCES

(Revised 8-17-17)

In December 2009, the EPA designated a portion of the Fairbanks North Star Borough as a Nonattainment area for fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>). In order to reduce emissions and clean up our air the Borough has adopted Air Quality ordinances, which have created guidelines and restrictions on the installation and operation of solid fuel burning appliances (SFBA's). **Fines for violating these provisions range from \$500 - \$1,000.** **DISCLAIMER:** Below is a general summary that is not inclusive of all Air Quality regulations and only references Code 21.28.020, 21.28.030, and 21.28.050. A complete copy of Borough Air Quality regulations can found online at

<http://www.codepublishing.com/AK/FairbanksNorthStarBorough/#!/FNSBC21/FNSBC2128.html#21.28>

#### **Borough Wide Regulations**

- \* **Prohibited Fuels** - Only clean wood that is **20% MOISTURE CONTENT OR LESS** is allowed to be burned in a wood burning appliance. Clean wood is defined as natural wood that has not been painted, varnished or coated with a similar material, has not been treated with preservatives, and does not contain resins or glues as in plywood or other composited wood products. There are many other prohibited fuels (e.g. garbage, glossy or colored paper, etc). Code reference 21.28.030(G).
- \* **Fine Particulate (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) Emissions crossing property lines** – No person shall cause or permit particulate emissions from a nonmobile source to impact the resident(s) of a neighboring property through the creation of an emissions plume that: crosses property lines, is visible, and is 25µg/m<sup>3</sup> greater than the surrounding background. Code reference 21.28.030(D).
- \* **Hydronic heater installation requirements** – There are setback requirements for the installation of hydronic heaters to limit how close the appliance is to property lines, as well as schools, clinics, hospitals, and senior housing units. Code reference 21.28.030(F).

#### **Nonattainment Area Regulations**

- \* **Borough Listed SFBA's** - Only Borough listed SFBA's can be installed, which are as follows: EPA certified wood and pellet stoves with an emissions rating of 2.5 g/hr or less, EPA certified hydronic heaters with an emissions rating of 0.10 lbs/million btu or less, masonry heaters, cook stoves, and fireplaces. Code reference 21.28.020.

#### **Air Quality Control Zone Regulations**

- \* **Air Alert Burn Restrictions** – Between Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>, the Borough's Air Quality division may call a Stage 1 or Stage 2 alert depending on how bad the air quality is expected to get. During a Stage 1 alert, burning is only permitted by those that have received a Stage 1 Waiver or No Other Adequate Source of Heat (NOASH) Waiver. During a Stage 2 air alert, all burning of solid fuels is prohibited unless a NOASH Waiver has been issued. To get a Stage 1 or NOASH waiver, the appliance must be Borough listed, along with wood burning training and proper wood storage

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