



U.S. EPA's Voluntary Qualification Program for Wood-Burning Fireplaces and Fireplace Retrofits

- There are approximately 29 million wood-burning fireplaces in the U.S. These and other wood-burning appliances can contribute to wintertime particle pollution.
- While EPA does not regulate the manufacture or use of wood-burning fireplaces, the agency's voluntary qualification 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 and retrofits emit less pollution than unqualified models.

- EPA-qualified new fireplaces are 70 percent cleaner than fireplaces that have not been qualified.
- Adding an EPA-qualified retrofit device to existing fireplaces may also significantly reduce emissions.

To participate in the program, manufacturers must have fireplaces or retrofit devices tested by an accredited independent laboratory and certified by an ISO laboratory.

To qualify models under the voluntary program, EPA reviews the test results and determines whether a fireplace or retrofit device meets the requirements. Qualified units are marked with a hangtag and included in a list on the Burn Wise website at: [Fireplace List](#).



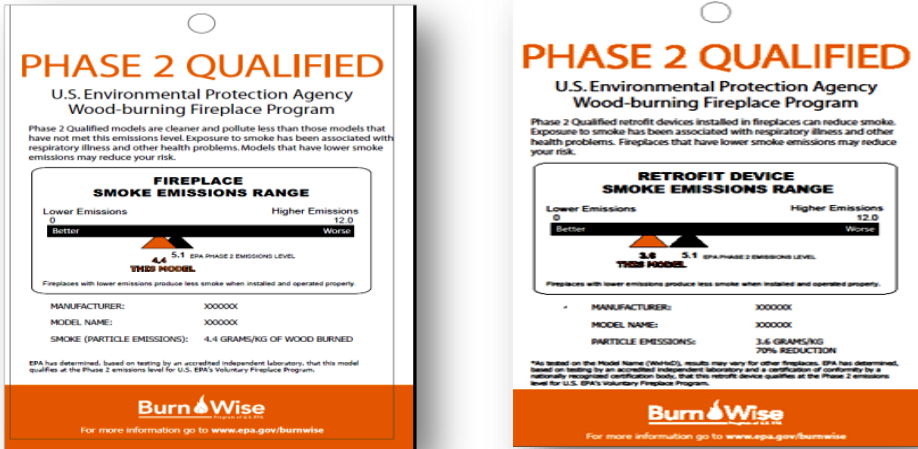
How states can participate:

In states where fireplace use is allowed, EPA recommends creating incentives to encourage the use of:

- EPA-qualified fireplaces in new construction and remodeling,
- EPA-qualified fireplace retrofit devices in existing fireplaces, and
- Conversion to gas alternatives.

In addition, outreach about fireplaces and fireplace retrofit use can be an effective tool for reducing pollution.

Proper installation, operation and maintenance are critical to reduce emissions; burning dry, seasoned wood with 20% moisture or less is especially important.

	Voluntary Fireplace Program Qualification
Test Method	ASTM Method 2558 (www.astm.org/Standards/E2558.htm)
Emission Rate*	5.1 grams of particle pollution per kilogram of wood burned (g/kg)
New Fireplace	 <p style="text-align: center;">New EPA Qualified Fireplaces Pre-manufactured and site-built masonry</p>
Fireplace Retrofit Device**	 <p style="text-align: center;">Catalyst Gas/Wood Hybrid</p>
Hangtags	

- Resources available on EPA's Burn Wise website: <http://www.epa.gov/burnwise>
- Questions and answers on EPA's Voluntary Fireplace Program: <http://www.epa.gov/burnwise/pdf/fireplaceqa.pdf>
- Strategies for Reducing Residential Wood Smoke: <http://www.epa.gov/burnwise/strategies.html>

* 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.