

MD Clean Burning Wood Stove Grant Program

Wood is the fastest growing residential heating fuel, and it is renewable and clean burning due to new stove technology. In Maryland, wood heat use grew 33% from 2000-2010. Although only a small percentage of people use it as the primary heat, a significant number use wood as a secondary source of heat. Like any heating appliance, efficiency is important. Fireplaces are very inefficient so installing a free-standing wood or pellet stove with high efficiency and low emissions can provide real warmth, something difficult to get from heat pump.



To help Maryland homeowners invest in wood energy, the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) provides grants for clean burning wood stoves that displace electric or non-natural gas fossil fuel heating systems or old woodstoves. The guidelines for the woodstove program can be found at:

<http://energy.maryland.gov/residential/Pages/incentives/woodstoves.aspx>. For additional questions, please contact: cegp@energy.state.md.us or call 410-537-4000.

Programmatic Highlight:

- ✓ Qualified wood stove grant: \$500 max / Qualified pellet stove grant: \$700 max
- ✓ The stove must be installed at a primary Maryland residence
- ✓ The stove must displace electric or non-natural gas fossil fuel heating systems or old uncertified woodstoves. You can replace a non-qualifying woodstove for a qualifying woodstove and receive a grant.
- ✓ A property may not receive more than one grant per technology per fiscal year
- ✓ MEA cannot offer grants to a property held in trust
- ✓ Grants are allocated on a first come/first served basis
- ✓ The grant amount for a wood/pellet stove will depend upon whether or not the stove is certified by EPA. EPA certification provides verified efficiencies and that is why higher grant amounts are applied. More companies are getting their stoves certified by EPA and the list is continually being updated. ([the EPA list of Certified Stoves](#))

- ✓ You can self-install stoves, as long as it is inspected by the local permitting office or your insurance provider. A letter from the inspector noting that it has been safely installed is required.

The Maryland Energy Administration has a two-tier incentive award for each stove category.

Type of Stove	Emission Requirement	Award Without an EPA Efficiency Rating	Award With an EPA Efficiency Rating
Wood (Firewood)	<3.0 grams of particulates per hour	\$250/installation	\$500/installation
Pellets	<2.0 grams of particulates per hour	\$350/installation	\$700/installation

Learn More About Heating With Wood & Pellets

The University of Maryland Extension has a number publications, webinars, and YouTube presentations to help homeowners learn about heating with wood. Publications include: *Heating with Wood in Maryland (FS-926)*; *The Wood Stove Checklist (FS-936)*; *Buying a Clean Burning Wood Stove (FS-939)*; *Considerations for Your Wood or Pellet Stove Installation (FS-940)*; *Hearth Dealer Directory*; *Directory of MD Firewood Dealers*; and *Best Management Practices for Installing and Firing Outdoor Wood Boilers (FS-953)*. All these publications and other resources such as webinars and workshop presentations can be found at: www.extension.umd.edu/woodland (Click the tab for Wood Energy Opportunities on top of the home page).

Additional information on residential wood heating is available from the Alliance for Green Heat, a non-profit that promotes modern wood and pellet heating systems as a low-carbon, sustainable and affordable energy solution. The Alliance works to advance cleaner and more efficient residential heating technology, particularly for low and middle-income families. More information is available at: www.forgreenheat.org.

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This publication, *(MD Clean Burning Wood Stove Program) (Draft)*, is one of a series of publications of the University of Maryland Extension and *Woodland Stewardship Education Program* (www.extension.umd.edu/woodland). The information presented has met UME peer review standards, including internal and external technical review.

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