

Clean Air Zone Geraldine

A child wearing a grey hoodie and pink pants is sitting on a beige couch, petting a small brown dog. The child is wearing white bunny slippers. The background is a blurred indoor setting.

Home heating measures

Woodburners are a great way to stay warm during winter, however smoke is the major contributor to urban winter air quality problems. To improve our air quality, we must start replacing older wood burners and everyone needs to burn smoke-free.

We are encouraging the use of low and **ultra**-low emission burners, good fuel and smoke-free burning techniques. There are different home heating measures for different types of burners throughout Canterbury, especially in Clean Air Zones (areas in Canterbury where air pollution is often high) and on properties less than two hectares.

Home heating measures for sites that are less than 2ha in size (generally urban areas) and in the Clean Air Zone:

- ultra-low emission burners are allowed into all homes, including new homes
- low emission burners are allowed into all homes, including new homes
- older style wood burners can be used until 1 January 2020 or until the property is sold (whichever happens first). They can be replaced with a low emission burner or an ultra-low emission burner at any time
- open fires cannot be used
- all burners must be registered with Environment Canterbury and all maintenance records must be kept. To do this visit solidburner.ecan.govt.nz

Home heating measures for sites that are greater than 2ha in size (generally rural areas) and in the Clean Air Zone:

- ultra-low emission burners and low emission burners are allowed into all homes, including new homes
- open fires (installed before 2013) and older style burners can be used, but cannot be installed.

Smoke-free burning

Check out the videos and tips at WarmerCheaper.co.nz

- use dry, seasoned wood only
- no visible smoke, except for brief periods during start-up and re-loading
- no burning toxic substances and materials including painted or treated timber
- no burning coal with a sulphur content of more than 1% (most readily-available coal).

For dry, seasoned wood, use one of our trusted suppliers for your next load of firewood.

Heritage buildings

- There are exceptions for listed heritage buildings where the heating appliances and chimney were original features (including restored original features).

If you are experiencing hardship or not in a position to replace your old wood burner by the dates above, please call Environment Canterbury on 0800 329 276. We can look at your individual case and help you work towards replacing your non-compliant burner.



Not in the Clean Air Zone?

Home heating measures for sites that are less than 2ha in size (generally urban areas):

- burn smoke free – same as for sites in the Clean Air Zone
- ultra-low emission burners and low-emission burners are allowed into all homes, including new homes
- open fires and older style burners can be used, but cannot be installed
- no burning of toxic substances/materials.

Home heating measures for sites that are greater than 2ha in size (generally rural areas):

- any burner may be installed and used
- no burning of toxic substances/materials
- good practice to use dry and seasoned wood
- good practice to have no visible smoke, except for brief periods.

To consider your options:

Visit ecan.govt.nz/air or call 0800 329 276

For a map of Clean Air Zones:

Visit canterburymaps.govt.nz and search for Clean Air Zones to find your address.

To find the age of your burner:

Search for your address at solidburner.ecan.govt.nz, check your LIM or Christchurch City Council

