

FIREPLACES, WOOD STOVES & FIREPLACE INSERTS



DEFINITIONS

Fireplace –

A wood-burning appliance intended to be used primarily for aesthetic enjoyment and not as a space heater.

Factory-Built Fireplace –

A listed assembly of a fire chamber, its chimney and related factory-made parts designed for unit assembly without requiring field construction. Factory-built fireplaces are not dependent on mortar-filled joints for continued safe use.

Fireplace Insert –

A wood burning device designed to be installed in an existing fireplace.

Wood Stove –

An appliance designed for or capable of burning wood and capable of and intended for domestic space heating or domestic water heating.

Nonrestricted Area –

That part of unincorporated Larimer County located west of Range 71, or north of the north half of Township 10, and east of Range 72, as shown on the Larimer County Fireplace Area Map (see reverse)

Restricted Area –

That part of unincorporated Larimer County located outside the Nonrestricted Area as shown on the Larimer County Fireplace Area Map (see reverse).

NOTE: Wood-fired boilers are also subject to state and federal clean air requirements. Please see separate handout on boilers.

INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

All fireplaces installed **on or after January 1, 2002** in the Restricted Area shown on the **attached** map shall be one of the following:

- (i) A gas fireplace or fireplace with a gas log installed and functioning at time of final inspection.
- (ii) An electric device
- (iii) A fireplace that meets the current emissions standards for a *Phase III Certified wood-burning stove* as set forth in Section II.A or other clean burning appliance that is approved by the commission set forth by [Colorado Administrative Code Rule 5 CCR 1001-6](#)

Within the Nonrestricted Area, fireplaces, including but not limited to masonry and factory-built fireplaces (such as metal and zero clearance fireplaces), are allowed and are not required to meet the standards above.

EMISSIONS STANDARDS

All wood stoves and fireplace inserts installed on or after May 15, 2020, anywhere in unincorporated Larimer County shall meet the emissions standards for wood stoves established by the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission and EPA regulation [40 CFR Part 60, Section 60.532\(b\) or \(c\)](#). Wood stoves and fireplace inserts installed on or after May 15th, 2020 must have a permanent attached label showing they meet the updated standards.

As of May 15, 2020, particulate matter emissions must be no more than:

- 2.0 g/hr (grams per hour) when tested with Crib Wood
- 2.5 g/hr (grams per hour) when tested with Cord Wood

Any fireplace in the Restricted Area, and any wood stove or fireplace insert throughout unincorporated Larimer County, installed prior to current regulations, may remain in use until the owner voluntarily replaces it. Upon replacement, equipment shall meet the current emission standards for wood stoves established by the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission.

PERMITS & INSPECTIONS

A miscellaneous permit and inspection are required for factory-built fireplaces, fireplace inserts, and wood stoves. A masonry fireplace requires a residential permit to verify the building structure will support the weight. The manufacturer's installation instructions must be on site for inspections so that the inspector can verify that the installation, including clearances to combustible materials, comply with the manufacturer's published instructions.

