

## Prohibited fuels

As a result of the *Regional Air Quality Plan for Southland* review during 2014, the list of prohibited fuels has been updated as part of a range of initiatives to help improve air quality, now and for the future.

### Prohibited Fuels for Home Heating

The following is a list of **prohibited** fuels for home heating that takes effect from **6 September 2014**.

- Wood which is painted, stained, oiled or coated
- Wood treated with preservatives or impregnated with chemicals, including but not limited to , wood treated with Copper-Chrome-Arsenic (CCA)
- Pellets containing greater than 10 mg/kg (dry) of copper and 0.02 w-% (dry) of chlorine
- Composite wood boards containing formaldehyde or similar adhesives, including but not limited to, chip board, fibreboard, particle board and laminated boards
- Metals and materials containing metals, including but not limited to cables
- Materials containing asbestos
- Material containing tar or bitumen
- All rubber, including but not limited to, rubber tyres
- Synthetic material, including, but not limited to, motor vehicle parts, foams, fibreglass, batteries, chemicals, paint and other surface-coating materials, or any type of plastics
- Waste oil
- Peat
- Sludge from industrial processes.

The following is a list of **prohibited** fuels for home heating that takes effect from **1 January 2015**.

- Wood having a moisture content of more than 25% dry weight
- Any fuel with a sulphur content exceeding 0.5% by weight (eg coal)

## **Explanation**

These substances are prohibited because they produce hazardous air pollutants including dioxins, furans and heavy metals. Hazardous air pollutants can cause serious harm to human health and the environment.

In particular, the following can affect human health:

- The burning of wet wood is linked to higher PM<sub>10</sub> emissions from wood burners
- Burning treated wood results in the release of arsenic into the air
- Burning fuels with high sulphur levels
- Burning pellets with high levels of copper and chloride results in increased dioxin emissions.

## **Prohibited Fuels for Outdoor Burning**

Outdoor burning (burning in the open) is permitted only for the burning of vegetative matter, paper, cardboard and untreated wood.

From 6 September 2014 you will be **prohibited** from burning the following:

- Any fuel with a sulphur content exceeding 0.5% by weight
- Wood which is painted, stained, oiled or coated
- Wood treated with preservatives or impregnated with chemicals, including but not limited to , wood treated with Copper-Chrome-Arsenic (CCA)
- Composite wood boards containing formaldehyde or similar adhesives, including but not limited to, chip board, fibreboard, particle board and laminated boards
- Metals and materials containing metals, including but not limited to cables
- Materials containing asbestos (except for the processing of vehicle brake shoes subject to a resource consent under section 4.3)
- Material containing tar or bitumen
- All rubber, including but not limited to, rubber tyres
- Synthetic material, including, but not limited to, motor vehicle parts, foams, fibreglass, batteries, chemicals, paint and other surface-coating materials, or any type of plastics including agricultural wrap and agrichemical containers
- waste oil
- Peat
- Sludge from industrial processes.

## **Explanation**

These substances are prohibited because they are likely to release toxic compounds when burnt. These include dioxins and furans, heavy metals, lead and arsenic, which are dangerous to human health.