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How to Ban Outdoor Wood Furnaces in Towns

1. First contact your town's Director of Health.

Discuss with your local Health Director the reasons why banning outdoor wood furnaces is important for the health and safety of the citizens of the town.

2. Contact the Mayor.

After you have met with the town Health Department, request a meeting with the Mayor. Again explain why it is necessary to ban outdoor wood furnaces and share the names of the towns that have already banned them. See if the Director of Health will join you at the Mayor's meeting.

3. Meet with the town's clerk of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Explain that you have met with the town's local Health Director and the Mayor and you would like to explain to him/her why banning outdoor wood furnaces is so important to the town. After that discussion, ask to have a Planning and Zoning Commission meeting concerning banning outdoor wood furnaces where you can explain outdoor wood furnaces to the whole commission.

4. If all parties named above agree that a ban would be important for the town – then ask for a Planning and Zoning Public Hearing. Be sure to have people come to the public hearing that are knowledgeable about why a ban of outdoor wood furnaces is important and are also willing to speak. If possible, have the local Health Department at the meeting – or at least make public their support of the ban. If the commission votes to ban outdoor wood furnaces – the town can enact the zoning regulation in one of two different forms.

5. Two different forms of a zoning regulation that ban outdoor wood furnaces.

(1) The installation of Outdoor Wood-burning Furnaces in any zone within the Town is prohibited.

Definition of an Outdoor Wood-burning Furnace.

OUTDOOR WOOD-BURNING FURNACES -- As defined in Connecticut State Statutes §22a-174k (pursuant to Public Act 05-227), and as regulated by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, an accessory structure or

appliance designed to be located outside living space ordinarily used for human habitation and designed to transfer or provide heat, via liquid or other means, through the burning of wood or solid waste, for heating spaces other than where such structure is located, any other structure or appliance on the premises, or for heating domestic, swimming pool, hot tub or Jacuzzi water. "Outdoor wood-burning furnace" does not include a fire pot, wood-fired barbecue or chiminea.

(2) Zoning Accessory Uses and Structures.

Accessory uses and structures shall be subject to the following conditions:

A. Establishment of accessory uses.

Accessory buildings, structures and uses shall be located on the same lot as the principal building, structure or use to which they are accessory.

B. Prohibited Accessory Uses and Structures.

The Commission feels that, by their very nature, the following uses and structures cannot be regulated in such a fashion as to protect the Health, Safety and Welfare of the general public and are prohibited in all zones.

Outdoor Wood Furnaces, as defined by P.A. 05-227