



Suite 1001, 1601 North Kent Street  
Arlington, VA 22209 USA  
Phone: (703) 522-0086 • Fax: (703) 522-0548  
Email: hpbamail@hpba.org  
Web Site: www.hpba.org

---

## **Response to New York State Article on Outdoor Furnaces**

---

ARLINGTON, Va. (August 15, 2005) – The Outdoor Furnace Manufacturers Caucus of the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association (HPBA) supports New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer's call for EPA standards for outdoor wood furnaces. In fact, the outdoor furnace manufacturers are proactively working with the EPA, New York Air Regulatory individuals and other interested parties to develop an ASTM International test standard for emissions and efficiencies for outdoor wood furnaces. This ASTM standard development must be completed in order to establish regulations.

The report and statements made by the New York Attorney General's office quantifies emissions from outdoor wood furnaces in grams per hour. This is misleading to those that review this report. It does not take into account the amount of heat produced for the amount of emissions. It would take multiple numbers of indoor wood stoves to produce the amount of heat produced by one outdoor wood furnace. The cumulative total emissions from that number of indoor wood stoves are similar to the emissions from one outdoor wood furnace.

A grams per hour measurement rating of an outdoor wood furnace would be like rating vehicle fuel efficiency in gallons per hour versus miles per gallon. It is not a meaningful measurement or rating method for the consumer.

An outdoor wood furnace provides the consumer with a safe renewable energy heating alternative that removes the combustion source from inside the home. This eliminates the risk of combustion byproducts being released inside the home whether it is a fossil fuel or renewable fuel appliance. The fire risk is also removed from inside the home.

EPA testing of outdoor wood furnaces was summarized by EPA in a 1998 report: "Compared to a wide range of residential heating options, these furnaces' emissions were of the same order as other stick wood burning appliances." (Report EPA-600/R-98/017.)

The manufacturers are equally as interested in completing the ASTM standard so they can move forward with a nationally recognized test method that can be used to help develop new products with greater efficiency and emissions performance.