Notice to Permit Applicants

**Removal of Non-Town-approved Solid Fuel Burning Devices**

In accordance with Chapter 7.06 of the Municipal Code and Town Council Resolution No. 2007-18, the Building & Safety Division, as part of their inspection duties for building permits, will inspect homes for non-Town-approved solid fuel burning appliances. Non-Town-approved solid fuel burning appliances are generally woodstoves and fireplace inserts manufactured prior to 1988. **As a condition of the building permit issued to you, all non-Town-approved appliances must be removed from your property or made permanently inoperable.**

Your building permit is subject to this inspection requirement because:

- The building permit is for an addition or interior remodeling, alterations or mechanical equipment with a project valuation of $5,000 or greater;
- Your home was constructed prior to 1994; and
- A certificate of compliance, verifying that there are no non-Town-approved devices, has not been issued to your property.

Prior to or at the time of final inspection, the building inspector will inspect your home to verify that all non-Town-approved appliances have been removed from your property or have been made permanently inoperable. If there is a non-Town-approved appliance on your property and it has not been made permanently inoperable, the building inspector will not approve your final inspection and your building permit will not be finaled until the appliance has been removed or made inoperable. EPA- and Oregon DEQ-certified woodstoves and inserts, fireplaces and pellet stoves are approved devices and are **not** required to be removed.

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<th>Non-Town-approved Appliances That Must Be Removed</th>
<th>Appliances That Do Not Have to be Removed</th>
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<td>Woodstoves and Fireplace Inserts not certified by Environmental Protection Agency or the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality</td>
<td>- Woodstoves, EPA Phase I and II Certified</td>
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<td>- Zero-Clearance Fireplaces</td>
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<td>- Pellet Fueled Wood Heaters</td>
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If you are unsure if your solid fuel burning appliance is an appliance or must be removed, please refer to the attached handout, “Tips on Figuring Out if Your Woodstove or Fireplace Insert is a Town-approved Appliance.”

If you have any questions regarding your solid fuel burning appliance or the requirement to remove the appliance, please talk to your Building & Safety inspector or contact the Planning Division at (530) 582-27820, extension 2.
Tips on Figuring Out if Your Woodstove or Fireplace Insert is a Town-approved Appliance

The first thing a homeowner should do is determine whether their woodstove or fireplace insert is a Town-approved appliance or is a non-Town-approved appliance and must be removed. Here are some tips to help you answer these questions:

- The presumption is that a woodstove or fireplace insert is a non-Town-approved appliance and must be removed unless it is clearly evident it is an approved appliance.
- Woodstoves and fireplace inserts certified by the Environmental Protection Agency or the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality do not have to be removed.
- Open masonry fireplaces, zero-clearance fireplaces and pellet stoves do not have to be removed.
- If the stove or insert was installed in the home before 1985, it is not a certified device and would have to be removed. Look for a certification label in the rear of the stove if you are not certain (see STEP 5 below).
- If the stove is freestanding, doesn't have a door and is open burning, it may not be an approved appliance device and may be required to be removed. If the appliance is built into the wall or the fireplace, it may be considered a zero-clearance fireplace and possibly may not be required to be removed (see STEP 7 below).

Are you still unsure whether you have a Town-approved woodstove or fireplace insert? Follow these steps:

**STEP 1** Try to determine the date that the stove or insert was installed. Building permit information on file with the Town Building & Safety Division may provide you with the date the home was constructed or when a stove or insert was subsequently installed. Please contact the Building & Safety Division at (530) 582-7821 for permit information; please have the Assessor's Parcel Number of your property.

**STEP 2** If you know the stove or insert was installed prior to 1985, it is not a Town-approved appliance and must be removed.

**STEP 3** If you know the stove or insert was installed between 1985 and 1994, it may be a Town-approved appliance. Woodstoves and inserts began to be certified by the Oregon DEQ in 1985 and by the EPA in 1988. However, Nevada County and the Town did not start to require the installation of EPA-certified devices until 1994, and some non-Town-approved appliances were installed in the Town prior to 1995. Go to STEP 5.

**STEP 4** If you know the stove or insert was installed in 1995 or later with a valid Town building permit, it is a Town-approved appliance and would not have to be removed.

**STEP 5** If you do not know when your stove or insert was installed, or if it was installed between 1985 and 1994, look on the rear of stove for a metal label. If the label contains language that states the device meets the emission factors of the Environmental Protection
Agency or Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, the stove is a Town-approved appliance and would not have to be removed.

Examples of EPA Labels

STEP 6 Sometimes the metal label on an EPA- or Oregon DEQ-certified appliance falls off. Identify the manufacturer and model type and number of the stove or insert; this information may be on the appliance or the brochure that came with the device. Then check the EPA’s website of certified appliances. If your appliance is on the EPA list, it is a Town-approved appliance and would not have to be removed.

EPA link http://www.epa.gov/compliance/list-epa-certified-wood-stoves

STEP 7 Still unsure? Contact the Planning Division at (530) 582-7820, extension 2, and we will help you figure out if your stove or insert is a Town-approved appliance. Photographs of the stove or insert are helpful, and we may also suggest an onsite visit.