



Local Heat – Local Advantages!

What is Modern Wood Heat?

Modern Wood Heat uses high-efficiency pellet or chip boilers to provide clean, convenient heat to homes and other buildings.

- Modern Wood Heat systems **entirely replace existing central oil or propane systems.**
- **Pellets are delivered to a bulk storage container** stored in the cellar or outside (depending on size).
- Modern Wood Heat **systems heat buildings automatically based on thermostat settings; the system feeds pellets directly**—you never need to haul wood or pellets again.

Benefits of Modern Wood Heat

- Efficient, convenient, reliable heat
- Local and renewable energy
- Price stability for easy budgeting
- Wood pellets are made close to home and support local jobs
- Retains energy spending 100% in local/regional economy
- Results in net reduction in carbon dioxide over time
- Dramatically lower particulate emissions than outdoor wood boilers or wood stoves
- Provides local jobs and a market for low-grade wood, helping to keep forests as forests



Cost Overview & Incentives

- Residential pellet boiler costs range from approximately \$13,000 to \$23,000
- Installation costs vary based on the existing heating system, installation site, and features
- **Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York offer incentives** for these systems. See a summary here: <http://tinyurl.com/mwhincentives>.
- **The Northern Forest Center has incentives available in certain locations** through our Model Neighborhood Projects. Please see <http://tinyurl.com/centermnp>.

Boilers, Pellets & Delivery

Boiler Manufacturers & Retailers: A number of pellet boilers are currently on the market. The manufacturers included in the Center's Model Neighborhood Wood Heat Initiative to date are [Froling](#), [Kedel](#), [MESys AutoPellet](#), [Pellergy](#), [Windhager](#), and [Evo-World](#). The Northern Forest Center does not endorse any particular brand of pellet boiler. Do a web search to find retailers near you.

Pellet Manufacturers: Pellets are made from 100% wood – hardwood (oak, maple, beech, birch, etc.), softwood (pine, fir, spruce), or a combination. They're made from "low-grade" wood (tops and branches) and/or sawmill residue. Mills in New England include:

- [Corinth Wood Pellets](#) in Corinth, ME
- [Geneva Wood Fuels](#) in Strong, ME
- [Maine Woods Pellet Company](#) in Athens, ME

- [Northeast Pellets](#) in Ashland, ME
- [New England Wood Pellet](#) in Jaffrey, NH and Deposit and Schuyler, NY
- [Curran Renewable Energy](#) in Massena, NY
- [Vermont Wood Pellet](#) in East Dorset, VT
- A new mill is just coming online in West Windsor, VT

Pellet Delivery Sources: The main bulk delivery companies are listed below with coverage areas, which are subject to change.

- [Curran Renewable Energy](#), Massena NY (315) 769-2000 – northern NY
- [Daigle Oil Co](#), Houlton, ME / Madawaska, ME / Ashland, ME (207) 532-2225 – Northern ME
- [Heutz Premium Pellet Systems](#), Lewiston ME (207) 782-3171 – parts of ME
- [Lyme Green Heat](#), Lyme NH – NH, VT, southern ME
- [Maine Energy Systems](#), Bethel ME (207) 824-6749 – ME, NH, VT
- [Sandri Energy Solutions](#), Greenfield MA (413) 772-2121 – NH, VT, southern ME
- [Vermont Renewable Fuels](#), Dorset VT (802) 362-3180 – NH, VT, parts of eastern NY
- [Vincent's Heating and Fuel Service](#), Poland NY (315) 826-3864 – NY, parts of VT

Common Questions

Is there enough wood? Yes. A [2010 report by the Biomass Thermal Energy Council](#) estimated conservatively that 18.5% of the northeastern U.S. could be heated with wood without over-taxing native forests. In 2015, only 4% of heat in the region came from wood.

Is the wood pellet supply reliable? Yes. While there was some shortage of *bagged* wood pellets in the 2014-15 winter, there was no supply problem for people who purchase pellets in bulk. The pellet mills prioritize their bulk delivery customers and are able to plan ahead for the heating season.

What are the carbon impacts of heating with wood? While using wood for fuel produces carbon dioxide, the forest that regenerates after a harvest will absorb carbon dioxide as it grows, reducing the net carbon dioxide in the air over time. Also, a tree produces no more carbon dioxide when used for fuel than when it dies and decays in the woods. The better managed a forest is, the closer wood comes to being carbon neutral. (Read more in our blog: <http://tinyurl.com/mwhblog>).

How do pellet boilers affect air quality? Modern wood heating appliances have pollution controls and high efficiency ratings that minimize negative health effects. The average amount of fine particle pollution from high-efficiency pellet boilers is 0.032 lbs/MMBtu—far less than uncertified wood stoves (4.6 lbs/MMBtus) and nearly as low as oil (0.013 lbs/MMBtu).

Visit our website:

Overview: <http://tinyurl.com/mwhoverview>

FAQs: <http://tinyurl.com/centerfaq>

Applications for incentives: <http://tinyurl.com/mnpapps>

Or contact Jess O'Hare

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