



**ACT**  
Government

Chief Minister, Treasury and  
Economic Development

### What can you do to help protect our air quality when using your wood heater?

1. Ensure you use dry and well-seasoned firewood.
2. Store wood in a well ventilated covered space.
3. Always use sufficient kindling to get a good hot fire started quickly.
4. Place logs in the firebox with about 2 cm between them to allow air flow.
5. Use smaller logs. They will make a fire easier to light, establishing a vigorous fire quickly after refuelling.
6. Before adding more fuel, open the air inlet to maximum for about five minutes. Then it should be kept open for at least 20 minutes after the fuel has been added. This creates a fire hot enough to ignite the fresh load quickly and get it burning well.
7. Do not overfill the heater - use two or three small logs in the heater, never one large log.
8. Keep your heater and flue in good working order, inspect both annually.
9. Don't let your fire smoulder. A fire set on a low setting causes excessive smoke pollution.



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Firewood is a renewable energy source, but only if it is carefully managed. Standing and fallen dead wood provides important habitat for animals and birds, it also plays an essential role in the maintenance of forest and woodland nutrient cycles.

**What can you do to minimise the bio-diversity impact of your firewood purchase?**

1. Ask if your firewood was sourced from areas where the removal of native vegetation has been approved.
2. When available purchase plantation timber instead of native forest or woodland timber.
3. Whenever possible purchase recycled wood, such as old fence posts or mill off-cuts.
4. Ensure that your firewood has not been collected from areas listed as critical habitat for endangered species.
5. Ensure that the required permits or approvals were obtained prior to the collection of your firewood.
6. Purchase firewood from merchants complying with the Environment Protection Regulation 2005.



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