

## Why are wood pellets green?

### Burning 1 ton of wood pellet heating fuel:

- Replaces at least 120 gallons of heating oil... or 170 gallons of propane... or 16,000 ft<sup>3</sup> of natural gas... or 4,775 kWh of electricity (and savings are often higher due to efficiency gains).
- Eliminates 1,500 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions as compared to heating oil.
- Saves the same amount of fossil fuels as if you switched to driving a Prius hybrid for a year.
- Mitigates greenhouse gas emissions and harmful pollutants such as CO<sub>2</sub>, sulfur dioxide, and mercury.
- Emits 50x less particulates from a high efficiency pellet stove than non-EPA certified wood stoves, and two to five times less than even newer, EPA-certified wood stoves.



### Sustainable Forestry Practices

Modern forestry practices improve the rate of carbon removal from the atmosphere and actually allow young trees to grow more rapidly.

That being said, most wood pellets are manufactured with waste products from the lumber or other wood industries – *not* from cutting trees. There is one exception to this rule: the forest service occasionally works with the pellet industry to remove standing dead trees that pose a forest fire hazard.

### Clean Combustion

Burning wood pellets in a high efficiency stove is cleaner than organic decomposition in a forest. This means that wood pellets are considered carbon neutral. In addition, pellet stoves, inserts, and central heating systems must have at least an 80% efficiency rating – and in fact, most appliances are 85-93% efficient.



### 100% Natural

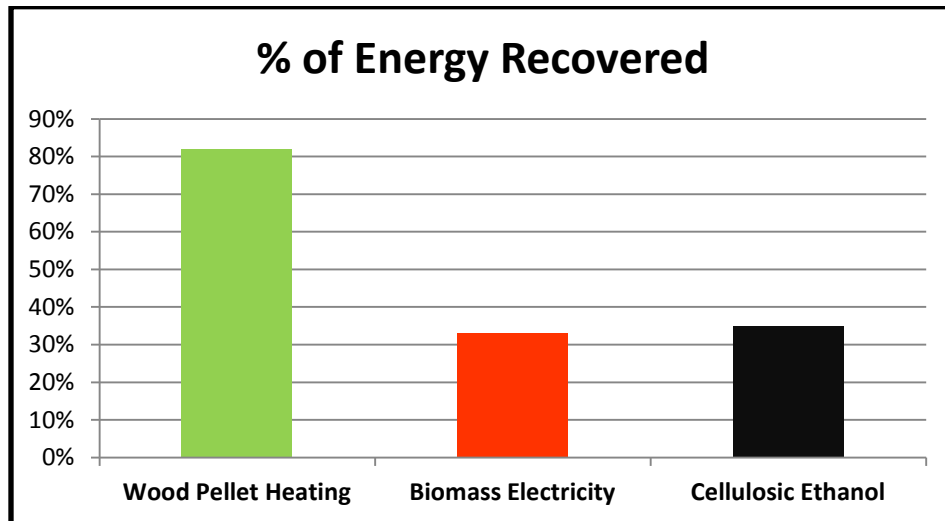
Wood pellets are 100% natural, with no binders, chemicals, or additives.

Most wood pellets made in the USA are manufactured from clean sawdust and wood chips: waste products from lumber and other wood industries that would wind up rotting in landfills, if not used for heating fuel. Wood naturally contains a substance called lignin that binds wood pellets in their tightly compacted, uniform shape. The only added ingredients are trace amounts of oil or corn starch, which can be utilized as a lubricant in processing.

## Highly Efficient Fuel Source

Using wood for heating is an extremely efficient use of these finite resources. That means that as a nation, we're able to displace more of our fossil fuel consumption and carbon emissions with this sustainable harvest.

The manufacturing process that produced pellets retains the potential energy stored in wood, and combustion in high efficiency stoves, fireplace inserts, and central heating systems is typically at 85-93% efficiencies. By comparison, only 25-40% of the energy in wood is recovered when wood feed-stocks used for electrical generation or conversion to transportation fuels such as ethanol.



Pellet stove owners enjoy additional efficiency gains of up to 20% through space heating, by keeping the main living areas warm and secondary zones slightly cooler:

