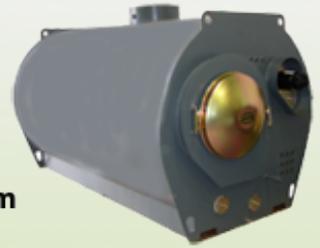


GARN[®]News

Information about GARN's highly efficient, smokeless wood heating system

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From the desk of . . .

Cordwood Fired Boilers - Outdoor, Indoor, or Shed Location?



Martin Lunde, GARN® developer and founder

So...you've decided to buy a wood-fired boiler (technically known as a "hydronic wood-fired heater) to heat your home or shop. You want to burn regular firewood (cordwood) because that's cheapest and most available. If you've narrowed it down and the units you're considering meet all codes and standards that apply (ASTM, ASME, UL, NFPA, emissions, etc), then the question really is whether to get an indoor, outdoor or shed type unit.

The quick rundown is this:

- **Indoor units** endanger health directly because of fire danger, mold and smoke within the living space (in other words, the air you and your family breathe in your home.)
- **Outdoor units** smoke like a volcano, suck up a lot of wood, and..... you have to stand outside in the cold, snow or rain to stoke them. It is important to note: outdoor boilers **cannot** be located within any type of building due to safety certification restrictions.
- **Shed type units** provide you protection from cold, snow and rain while keeping the danger, mess and smoke out of the house. For years, we have suggested placing GARN WHS units in a small *lean-to* type shed attached to an existing garage.

GARN WHS units are very efficient (virtually smoke free) with the added feature of water-based heat storage built-in, saving the expense of adding separate thermal storage. Usually, only two burns are required on a cold winter day. Although all GARN WHS units since 1985 have been UL and CSA safety certified for indoor installation, it still makes sense to place the unit in a shed for a residential installation.

In this table, the major issues related to the placement of cordwood fired "boilers" are listed. Each type is then rated: POOR, OK or BEST.

GARN may well be the best kind of hydronic system for you. When that cold winter wind is whistling, only you know the value of cozy "breathe easy" nights in your home.

ISSUES	I N D O O R	O U T D O O R	S H E D
	Smoke, dirt, dust, ash, bugs and mold	POOR	BEST
Fire hazard to the residence*	POOR	OK	BEST
Outdoor exposure during use	BEST	POOR	BEST
Air quality health risks inside home*	POOR	OK	BEST
Installed cost (<i>floor area, piping, controls, storage</i>)	POOR	POOR	BEST
Stand-by heat loss	BEST	POOR	OK

**Outdoor boilers present a danger to the home due to possible chimney fires and smoke infiltration due to smoldering combustion*