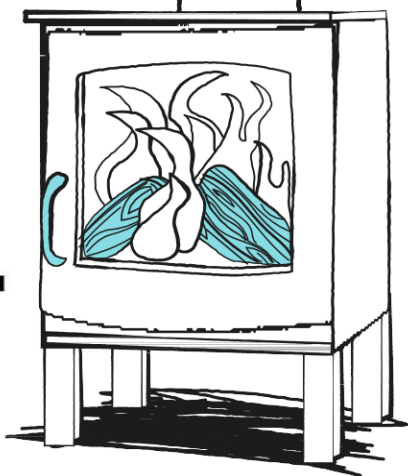


# Air Pollution from Solid Fuel Burning

For House and Boat owners:

- Wood-Burning stoves
- Open fireplaces

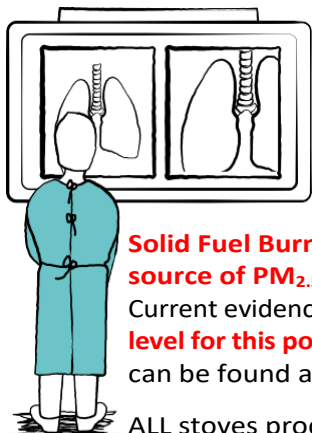


# Effects of Solid Fuel Burning on Health and the Environment

Burning solid fuel such as **wood**, **Smokeless fuels**, **coal** leads to **poor air quality** indoors and contributes to outdoor pollution.

Smoke from the burning of Solid Fuel even if not visible contains tiny **particulate matter called PM<sub>2.5</sub>**, which has been identified by the World Health Organization as the most harmful air pollutant to human health.

PM<sub>2.5</sub> travels deep into our lungs and **increases the risk** of **respiratory infections, asthma, heart disease** and **lung cancer**.

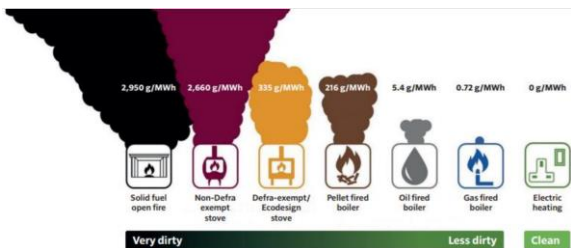


People already suffering with lung and heart problems are **more likely to be affected**, as are older people, pregnant women, unborn babies and very young children.

**Solid Fuel Burning** is the **second highest source of PM<sub>2.5</sub> air pollution** in London.

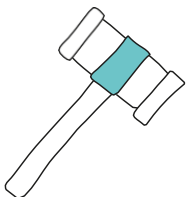
Current evidence suggests **there is no safe level for this pollutant**. More Information can be found at <https://woodburning.london>

ALL stoves produce pollution; even new **DEFRA approved ECODESIGN stoves emit over 450 times the amount of PM<sub>2.5</sub>** compared to a gas boiler (See below).



# Smoke control legislation

## what are the rules?



All London councils have Smoke Control Areas where smoke should not be emitted from a chimney. See

<https://www.gov.uk/smoke-control-area-rules>

Under the Clean Air Act 1993, breaking these rules by the occupier of the property can result in a Financial Penalty of up to **£300**.

In smoke control areas it is only legal to burn certain “smokeless” or “authorised” fuels or to use an appliance that has been granted an exemption by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). A Defra exempt appliance must only be used with the type of fuel permitted by Defra for that appliance

The penalty for breaking the smoke control area rules by obtaining **unauthorised fuels** to use in a non-exempt appliance is a fine of up to **£1,000**

Check the list of authorised fuels here

<https://smokecontrol.defra.gov.uk/authorised-certified-fuels/>.

Check the exempt appliances here

<https://smokecontrol.defra.gov.uk/exempt-appliances/England>.