

U.S. EPA's Voluntary Qualification Program for Wood-Burning Fireplaces and Fireplace Retrofits

- There are approximately 29 million wood-burning fireplaces in the U.S. These and other wood-burning appliances can contribute to wintertime particle pollution.
- While EPA does not regulate the manufacture or use of wood-burning fireplaces, the agency's voluntary qualification program for fireplaces can be an effective tool to help reduce particle pollution.

About the program:

The fireplace program encourages the manufacture and sale of new cleaner wood-burning fireplaces and retrofit devices for use in existing fireplaces. EPA-qualified fireplaces and retrofits emit less pollution than unqualified models.

- EPA-qualified new fireplaces are 70 percent cleaner than fireplaces that have not been qualified.
- Adding an EPA-qualified retrofit device to existing fireplaces may also significantly reduce emissions.

<u>To participate</u> in the program, manufacturers must have fireplaces or retrofit devices tested by an accredited independent laboratory and certified by an ISO laboratory.

<u>To qualify models</u> under the voluntary program, EPA reviews the test results and determines whether a fireplace or retrofit device meets the requirements. Qualified units are marked with a hangtag and included in a list on the Burn Wise website at: <u>Fireplace List</u>.

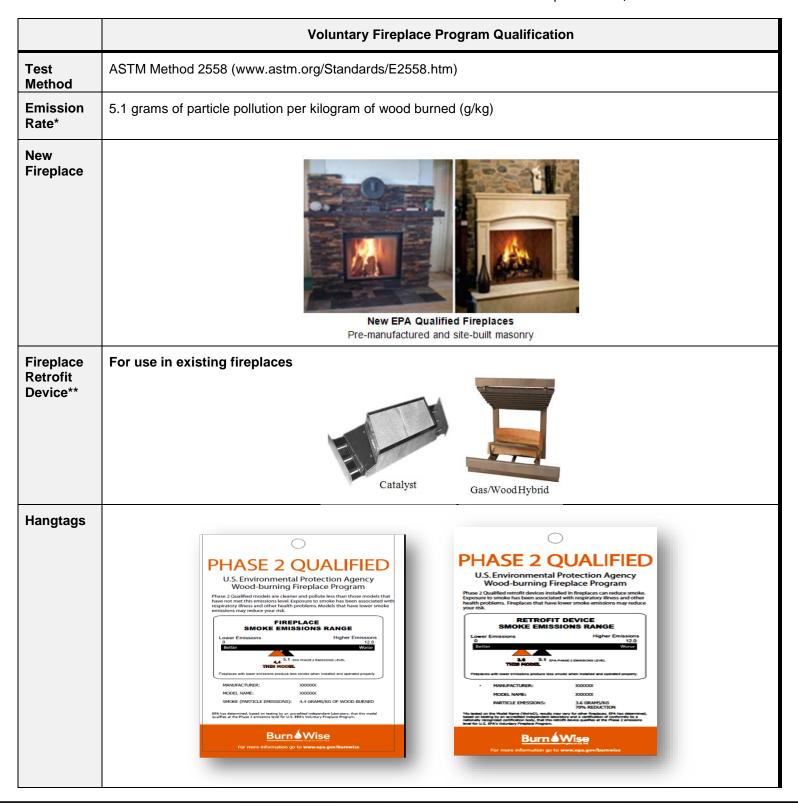
How states, tribes and local agencies can participate:

In communities where wood burning is allowed in fireplaces, EPA encourages:

- Installing EPA-gualified fireplaces in new construction and remodeling
- Using EPA-qualified retrofit devices in existing fireplaces
- Converting to gas alternatives.
- Educating people to burn only dry, seasoned wood with 20% moisture or less.

Resources are available at:

- EPA's Burn Wise website
- Questions and answers on EPA's Voluntary Fireplace Program
- Strategies for Reducing Residential Wood Smoke



- * The emission limit for the voluntary fireplace program is based on the amount of wood burned.
- ** EPA qualification is based on a retrofit device tested in a specific fireplace; results may vary for other fireplaces.