



TIMISKAMING FIRST NATION

Burning wood and garbage: why not?

Smoke contains hundreds of harmful gases and chemicals, just like cigarettes or car exhaust. Nitrogen dioxide, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, aldehydes, and phenols irritate lungs. Dioxins, formaldehyde, benzene, and benzo[a]pyrene can increase your risk of getting cancer.



<http://data.orcaa.org/operations/all-agency-operations-entries/illegal-burning-images/>

Wood heating produced over 115,000 tonnes of fine particle pollution in Ontario and Quebec in 2013. Industrial sources produced only 29,000 tonnes.

Over your lifetime, inhaling the fine particles that make up woodsmoke can increase your chance of getting cancer.



Upgrade your woodstove, burn only dry wood, or go electric!



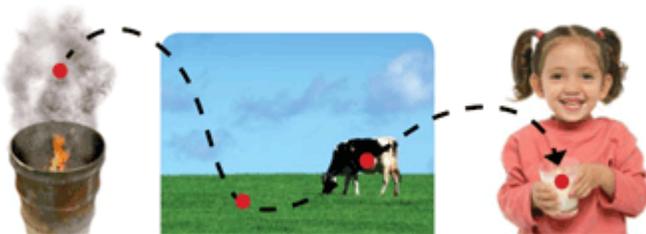
© Jorge Royan / <http://www.royan.com.ar/> / CC-BY-SA-3.0

You are four times more likely to inhale fine particles from a backyard fire than from other sources like industry or cars because it is nearer to your home.

Healthy people do not usually notice short-term effects from smoke, but children with asthma and elders with lung conditions can end up in the hospital.



Compost leaves and chip branches to make mulch for gardens and paths.



<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/living-green/living-green-citizen/reduce-reuse-recycle/dont-burn-garbage/dont-burn-your-garbage-concerns.html>

TCDD is a highly toxic chemical that stays in the environment a long time and enters the food chain.

Burning 10 kg of garbage in your yard produces the same amount of TCCD as burning 182,000kg in a municipal incinerator with emission control technology.



Never burn garbage. Recycle, reuse, and send the rest to the landfill.

Estimate of fine particulates from wood heating: Environment Canada, <http://ec.gc.ca/inrp-npri/donnees-data/ap/index.cfm?lang=En>
Woodsmoke intake: Ries, Francis J., Julian D. Marshall, and Michael Brauer. "Intake fraction of urban wood smoke." *Environmental science & technology* 43.13 (2009): 4701-4706.

TCDD: Lemieux, Paul M., et al. "Emissions of polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins and polychlorinated dibenzofurans from the open burning of household waste in barrels." *Environmental Science & Technology* 34.3 (2000): 377-384.

This material was developed by the Health Centre and Ni Dakinan, in collaboration with researchers at the University of Victoria Spatial Sciences Research Lab and CAREX Canada, a university-based program about cancer and the environment.

