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KEEP WARM WITHOUT COMPROMISING SAFETY

As the winter chill heads our way, homeowners are firing up their wood heaters to keep warm.

Wood heating is the natural way to heat your home without harming our environment and emitting harmful gases. Wood heating uses a renewable source of energy, firewood.

The use of sustainably harvested firewood for domestic home heating has strong environmental benefits.

The low, even negative greenhouse gas emissions from woodheaters are a very important aspect of woodheater use. Firewood has long been a useful source of heat, and at a time when costs of electricity and gas continue to rise, wood heating remains the cheapest and most efficient form of heating your entire home.

Be sure to keep safety in mind, here are some tips to keep warm and safe:

- 1 Do not put clothing, blankets or any combustible material near the wood heater
- 2 Keep children well away from the wood heater, if possible use a fire screen
- 3 Do not use treated timber as these release dangerous chemicals
- 4 Never use petrol or kerosene to light your fire – only use kindling, paper and firelighters for best results

Wood heaters should always be installed by a person who is qualified to do so. Contact your local Australian Home Heating Association member to find out more information.

Wood heating is safe and effective as long as you take care of it and use it correctly.

Wood heating is still the most efficient form of heating for the home with more than 1.2 million households in Australia using firewood to heat their home.

For further information or images contact Australian Home Heating Association or visit www.homeheat.com.au.

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TIPS FOR BETTER BURNING

1. Burn only dry, well-seasoned wood.
2. Have your flue checked and cleaned every year.
3. Buy your firewood from a reputable supplier.
4. If you collect your own firewood – collect in dryer months
5. Store wood in a crisscross fashion and keep it undercover.
6. Keep air controls open until the fire is burning brightly.

A FREE DVD on how to use your wood heater correctly is available from the AHHA National Office.

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