

Environmental Impacts Of Biomass Residential Heating



A Panel Discussion With Questions

- Roger Sanders - HeatGreen Council, Retailer
- Dr. James Houck - Air Quality Researcher
- Tex McLoud - Hearth Products Consultant
- Chris Neufeld - Stove Manufacturer

A Few Definitions To Start With...

Sustainability

- Sustainable energy sources are those which are not expected to be depleted in a timeframe relevant to the human race.
- Biomass wood and pellet heating, wind, nuclear, solar and hydroelectric are examples of sustainable energy.
- Fossil fuel energy sources are not sustainable.

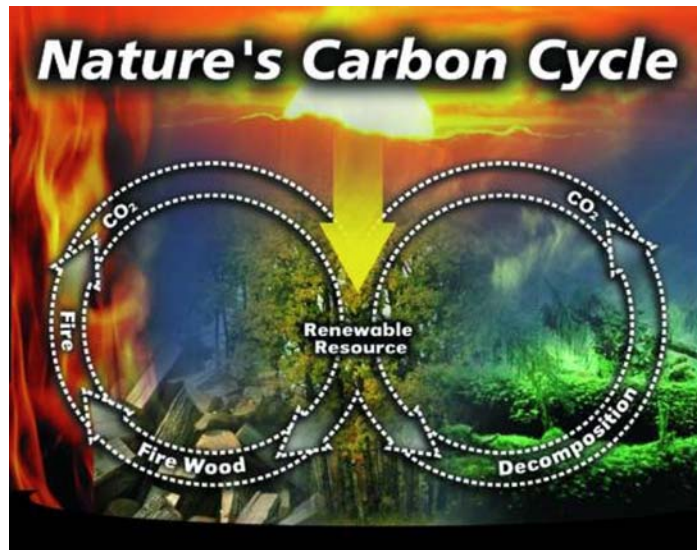
Renewability

- Renewable energy sources are those sources that are naturally replenished.
- Wind, solar, hydroelectric and biomass wood and pellet heating are examples of renewable heating sources.
- Natural gas, coal and oil energy sources are not renewable.

Carbon Neutrality

- Carbon neutrality means no net carbon release into the atmosphere.
- Burning biomass material like wood and pellets are carbon neutral and do not produce a net increase in CO_2 emissions. Trees take in as much CO_2 during photosynthesis as their wood produces when it's burned.
- When wood is left to rot or burn in forest fires, as much CO_2 is produced as during wood burning in certified clean burning wood and pellet stoves.
- Fossil fuels are not carbon neutral.

BURN OR ROT, net CO₂ doesn't change



A Question...

- Do clean burning, biomass hearth products really lower cholesterol levels?