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DEC Recognizes Participants of Moisture Disclosure Program

Local Fairbanks businesses help promote safe, efficient wood burning

(ANCHORAGE, AK) – The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) recognized three businesses today for voluntarily taking part in the Moisture Disclosure Program. The statewide program was developed by DEC to encourage communication between wood sellers and wood buyers about the moisture content of wood being sold and to raise awareness about the importance of burning dry wood.

Delta Wood and Properties, Wayne Hunter the Wood Cutter, and Wood Brothers Firewood are the three businesses currently participating. DEC also highlighted Wood Brothers Firewood for becoming the first “recognized dry wood seller” in the state. The business recently completed an addition to its facility that uses an incinerator and industrial fan to move hot air through a fully enclosed structure in order to dry wood.

“Alaskans need to be aware of the serious health issues associated with burning wood that isn’t dry,” said Cindy Heil, DEC air quality program manager. “We wanted to thank these businesses for doing their part in promoting this important message.”

The Moisture Disclosure Program was created as a part of DEC’s “Burn Wise” campaign, which aims to educate Alaskans on wood moisture content, the harmful effects of wood smoke, and what actions wood burners can take to burn more efficiently while saving money and limiting pollution. The campaign also seeks to raise awareness of a new regulation to burn only dry wood, which will take effect on October 1, 2015, in Fairbanks and North Pole.

“So many residents in this area depend on wood to heat their homes,” said Sheldon Longnecker of Delta Wood and Properties. “Helping them burn only dry wood not only keeps our air clean, but saves the customer money because they will need less wood to heat their home or office. It’s a win-win.”

For more information on the Burn Wise campaign, please visit:
<http://burnwise.alaska.gov>.

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