



REGULATIONS GOVERNING  
**RESIDENTIAL FIREPLACE INSTALLATION**

PINAL COUNTY BUILDING SAFETY DEPARTMENT  
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INFORMATION  
BULLETIN

**019**

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This bulletin is intended to aid the builder or homeowner in determining whether a wood-burning appliance, such as a fireplace, woodstove or other solid-fuel burning device is acceptable for the area in which the dwelling exists. The Arizona Revised Statute §49-541 defines the area effected by Pinal County Ordinance No. 122000-BS, herein called "the Ordinance". (Ordinance available upon request.) That area in Pinal County, defined as "Area A", is delineated as follows: (See the attached map)

Township 1 North, Range 8 East and Range 9 East  
Township 1 South, Range 8 East and Range 9 East  
Township 2 South, Range 8 East and Range 9 East  
Township 3 South, Range 7 East through Range 9 East

A fireplace is defined as a built in-place masonry hearth and fire chamber or a factory-built appliance, designed to burn solid fuel or to accommodate a gas or electric log insert or similar device, and which is intended for occasional recreational or aesthetic use, not for cooking, heating or industrial purposes.

On or after January 19, 2001, no person, firm or corporation shall construct or install a fireplace or a woodstove, and the Building Official shall not approve or issue a permit to construct or install a fireplace or woodstove in the area described above **unless** it complies with at least one of the following conditions:

1. A fireplace which has a permanently installed gas or electric log inserts.
2. A fireplace, woodstove or other solid-fuel burning appliance which has been certified by the EPA according to the Ordinance.
3. A fireplace, woodstove or other solid-fuel burning appliance which has been tested and listed by a nationally recognized testing agency to meet performance articles equivalent to those used by the EPA according to the Ordinance.
4. A fireplace, woodstove or other solid-fuel burning appliance which has been determined by the Building Official to meet performance articles equivalent to those used by EPA according to the Ordinance.
5. A fireplace which has a permanently installed woodstove insert which complies with 2, 3, or 4 above.

Cook stoves and other appliances designed primarily for cooking, fire pits, barbeque grills and other outdoor fireplaces are not regulated or prohibited by the Ordinance. However, it is prohibited to alter or remove a gas or electric log insert or a fireplace insert for the purpose of converting the fireplace to directly burn wood or other solid fuel. It is also prohibited to alter a fireplace, woodstove or other solid fuel-burning appliance in any manner that would void its certification or listing.

A list of manufacturers and the models that are approved is available through the Building Safety Department or on the Internet web site [http:// www.maricopa.gov/sbeap/stoves.htm](http://www.maricopa.gov/sbeap/stoves.htm). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask before you install a solid fuel burning appliance in Area A in Pinal County. This ordinance is designed to help reduce the amount of air pollution caused by particulate matter.

# RESIDENTIAL FIREPLACE RESTRICTION AREA "A"

