

Don't Waste Town Wood!

Does your town dispose of wood from maintenance projects and storm cleanups? What happens to hazard trees removed from roadsides, trails, and conservation areas? What will your town do if insects like the Emerald Ash Borer or Gypsy Moth kill a lot of town trees?

**Where does your town wood go?
Do you give it away?
Do you have to pay to dispose of it?**

**Put Your Wood
to Work Instead!**

You Can:

- ✓ Sell excess town wood to residents for firewood
- ✓ Have sound material sawn into lumber for town projects
- ✓ Start a "Wood Bank" to keep the whole community warm during the winter
- ✓ Convert town buildings to modern wood heating and save on fuel costs

Wood is local, renewable and abundant... Why not turn a waste problem into an asset!

Sell Firewood

- Communities can sell cut up hardwood logs to residents for firewood, or sell uncut logs to local firewood dealers. Brush and smaller wood can be chipped to use for heating or for mulch in town parks and on trails.
- The town can set up a dedicated fund to use the proceeds from firewood sales to pay for tree planting, tree maintenance, and other costs.

Start a Local Wood Bank

- Wood Banks can help keep all members of the community warm! Wood Banks function much like Food Banks.
- Firewood from routine management of town-owned trees is cut up, stacked and dried. Some wood banks have volunteers help cut, split, and stack the wood.
- Residents who need fuel assistance can request a voucher from the town to pick up seasoned wood from the Wood Bank. Petersham and Athol are two communities that have started local Wood Banks, and wood banks can also be joint efforts between towns.

Convert Town Buildings to Modern Wood Heat

- Converting to modern wood heating systems can keep your town buildings warm while saving on heating bills. Automatic firing systems are reliable, low-carbon, low-emission, efficient, and economical.
- If your town can chip wood or is interested in a cordwood boiler, then you already have what it takes to supply fuel for a modern wood heating system.

Get Started Today!

- Inventory your town's existing wood resources. How much waste wood (and what type) do you deal with each year?
- Discuss the possibility of firewood sales or a wood bank with town department heads
- Are there town buildings that might be good candidates for wood heating systems?
- Got questions? Contact the SWET for assistance at 617-455-9918.