

Hornick reports

Wood heat can mean savings if used wisely

Using wood for fuel can make a big difference in your heating bills. But if you want that difference to mean lower bills, you must use the wood wisely.

"You need dry wood and a clean chimney to get the most out of your firewood and reduce fire danger," said John R. Hornick of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service.

"The most important thing is to use dry wood," said

Hornick. "Living trees may be more than half water. Trying to burn fresh-cut or green wood can give you significant problems."

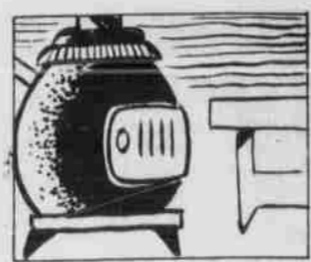
Hornick said the best way to make sure you have dry wood is to cut it the winter before the heating season you plan to use it. Cut the wood into lengths to fit your burner. Split all pieces more than eight inches in diameter. Pile it off the ground on bricks or poles and cover it to protect it

from rain and snow.

"If you are only now cutting wood for this winter, look for dead trees either standing or fallen down that have lost their bark. They will make better fuel than living trees," he said.

"You can also make green wood dry faster by stacking it in a sunny spot and covering it with clear plastic. This provides essentially the same effect as the inside of a lumber dryer. You can see water

collecting on the inside of the plastic and running down to the ground.



A pot-bellied stove can be an efficient source of heat if it's properly installed.

"Pipe joints should be tight enough so you can't see light through them. There should be no cracks or holes in the pipe or chimney and corroded pipe should be cleaned or replaced. Assemble the pipe so the uppermost sections fit into the lower sections. This will allow liquid creosote to drip back in the firebox where it can be burned."

"Drying wood before burning it is important for two reasons," Hornick said.

"First, wet wood gives less heat than dry wood. Much of the heat of a fire can be lost drying water out of the wood."

"Second, the slow, cool fire resulting from wet wood causes the deposit of sooty, black creosote in the chimney. This creosote is flammable and can cause chimney fires," Hornick said to use no more than one pipe section for horizontal runs of pipe. Be sure it does not sag at any point.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Bureau of the Census form RS-9B for the collection of general revenue sharing data and which also shows an antirecession fiscal assistance expenditure of \$161.00 is available for public inspection. It may be examined at Heppner City Hall from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Marshall Lovgren
City Administrator

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THE 'NO FRILLS' SUPERMARKET

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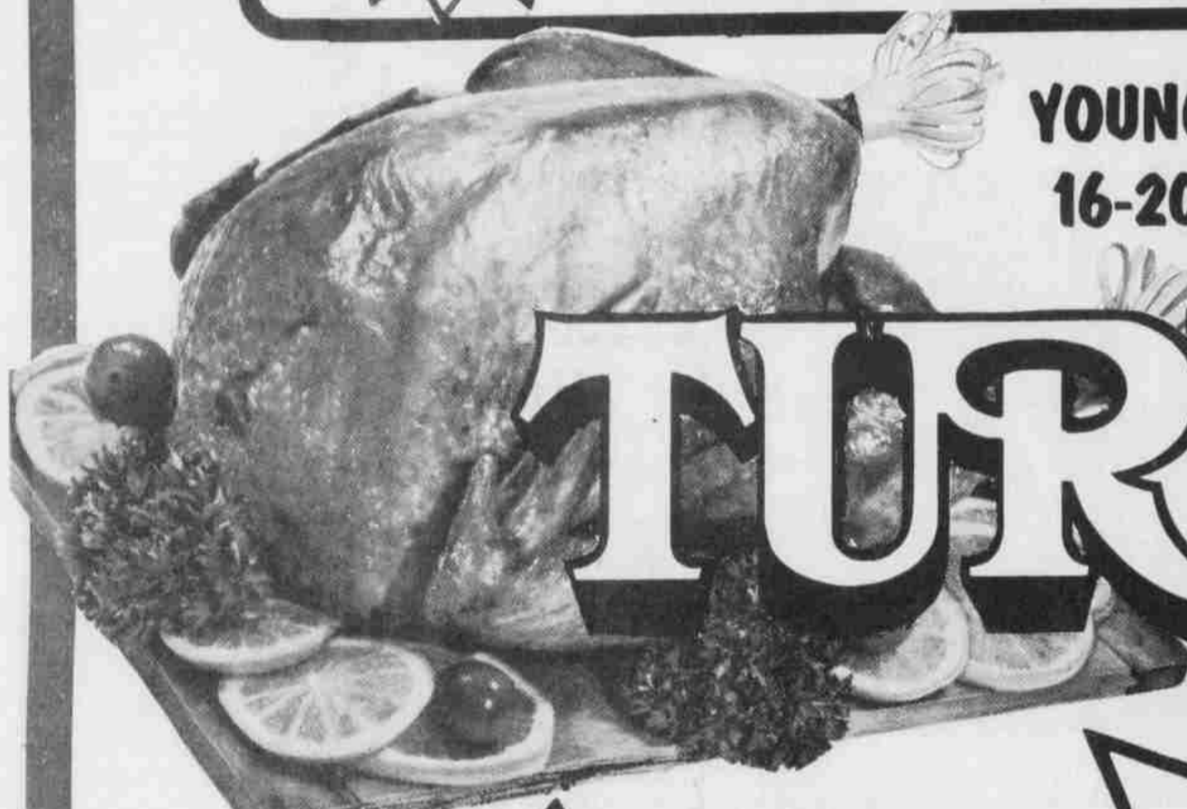
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