

January 7, 2011,

Dear Legislators,

Since the founding of our country, wood has been used as a source of heat for people's homes and barns. It makes no sense to disallow the use of our wood furnaces based on the possible misuse of these furnaces by only a few individuals. I own registered farm number 1860 tract 8258 and my farm name is Trading Cove Farm (forestry harvesting). My wood furnace was the first legally permitted installation in the Town of Montville per the Zoning Commissioner. I have never burned anything other than wood in my furnace and presume that is why I have never received a single complaint against the use of my furnace. I started my furnace for the very first time on January 10, 2006. The cost of my furnace including installation was well over 12,000 dollars which was itself a huge expense. I am just now beginning to realize the return on my investment. Prior to the installation of my furnace I was spending between 2,500 and 5,000 dollars per year on home heating oil. It is safe to assume that with the current oil prices continuously trending upward that costs would reach well over the 5,000 dollar per year mark. If this bill were to pass then wouldn't it make sense to also disallow the use of woodstoves , fireplaces, campfires, fire pits, backyard barbecue pits, meat and fish smoke houses, meat and fish smokers, gas grills, charcoal grills and any smoke creating device. Sounds ridiculous doesn't it? If I am forced by the State to discontinue using my wood furnace who is going to pay for the abandonment / removal of my wood furnace. It appears very likely that costs for removing the furnace from service would far exceed the installation costs. The abandonment / removal would require at a minimum the following:

1. Licensed Electrician – Total disconnection required back to the box.
2. Licensed Plumber – Total disconnection including all associated piping to be removed and costs for sole re-hook for oil burning only.
3. Licensed Excavation Contractor – All underground utilities would require being dug up for removal and disposal.
4. Licensed Crane Operator – Crane Operator to lift the abandoned furnace from its location and place on truck for disposal.
5. Certified Crane - Crane to lift the abandoned furnace from its location and place on truck for disposal.
6. Trucking company – To haul the abandoned furnace to licensed disposal facility.

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7. Landscaper – To repair the excavation areas, grade and re-seed. Including fill and screened topsoil.
8. Town officials to re-inspect – With the plumbing and electrical being effected, re-inspection is required.
9. Disposal facility - For all the piping, materials and the furnace itself to be disposed of properly.

Additionally, will I receive payment for the initial 12,000 dollars plus for the furnace and installation. Who is going to reimburse me for the money I will have to spend on oil for the next 30 years or so? Even if we figure conservatively at 5,000 per year for oil costs $5,000 \text{ dollars} \times 30 \text{ years} = 150,000 \text{ dollars}$. I will expect that once all is said and done that approximately 200,000 dollars would have to come from the State or Federal agency or organization which is refusing me my Constitutional right to use my wood furnace.

Are you going to write me that check?

Respectfully signed,

Mark D. Surprenant 2.7.11

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