

Fuel-Saving Advice From Over-Qualified Experts

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IN YOUR WOOD-BURNING STOVE

Scott Salveson, executive director, National Firewood Association

▶ Moisture content is the most important aspect in choosing your wood. An armload of green wood can have as much as a gallon of water in it. That moisture cools the firebox and flue, making complete combustion impossible. Test for dryness by banging two wood pieces together. It should sound like hitting drumsticks.

▶ Smaller pieces burn thoroughly, rather than smoldering. Resplit anything with a dimension more than six inches in any direction.

