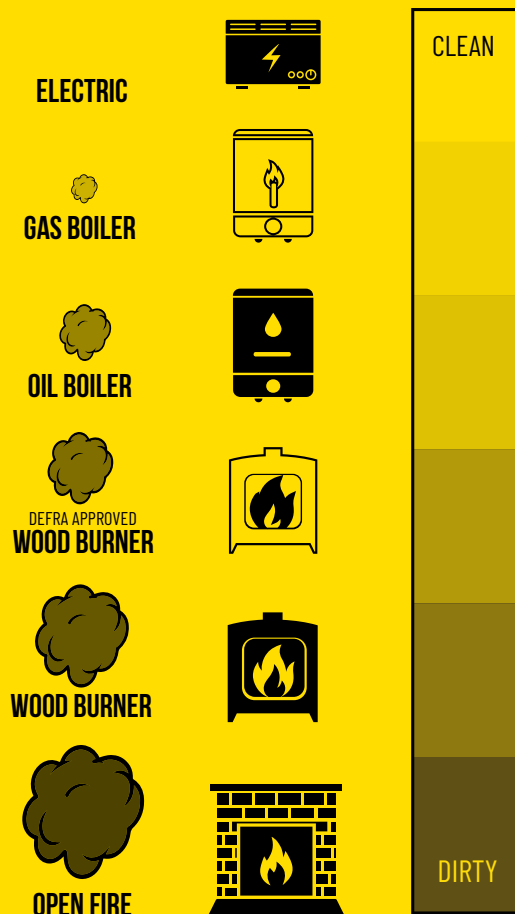


HOW POLLUTING IS YOUR HEATING?

Wood burning stoves are amongst the most polluting ways to generate heat. However, much cleaner and less harmful alternatives are available.

Here is a scale showing the levels of harmful particulate emissions that come from most common heating methods.



WHERE YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE

For most homes in Oxford, there is a cleaner, safer alternative to using a wood burning stove. However, for some people, these stoves are the only option for heating their home.

For best practice and advice and information on how to increase the efficiency of your wood burning stove, please visit:

www.oxford.gov.uk/FuelGood

do you
FUEL?
GOOD

THE HARMFUL HEALTH IMPACTS OF WOOD BURNING !

For house and boat dwellers



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THE PROBLEM

The use of wood burning stoves has risen in the last decade, due to rising fuel prices and the level of comfort they provide. Yet, domestic wood burning trebles the effect of harmful particulate pollution inside your home. Particulate pollution is released into the air when materials are burned. This negatively impacts on your health, the health of your loved ones, is particularly damaging to the young and the old and contributes to an overall increase in air pollution levels in the city.

MAIN SOURCES OF HARMFUL FINE PARTICULATE POLLUTION IN OXFORD:



Even efficient wood burning stoves are harmful to your health, your children and members of your local community.

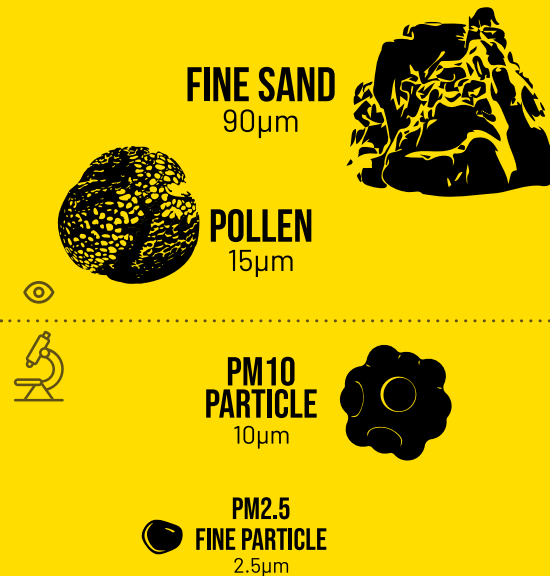
WHAT IS PARTICULATE POLLUTION?

Particulate pollution refers to a mix of tiny solid and liquid particles that are in the air we breathe. Some particulates can be seen with the naked eye such as fine sand and pollen. Others are so small they can only be detected using an electron microscope. These particulates are especially harmful to health, and fall into two categories:

PM10: inhalable particles, with diameters generally 10 micrometers and smaller.

PM2.5: fine inhalable particles, with diameters generally 2.5 micrometers and smaller.

There is a direct link between the size of particles and their potential for causing health problems. Small particles pose a greater risk because they can get deep into your lungs and enter your bloodstream.



IMPACTS OF PARTICULATE POLLUTION ON HEALTH

Particulate pollution can have a serious impact on human health. It is especially harmful for children, the elderly, and those with illnesses or conditions such as asthma and emphysema. The negative impacts it can have on the body are shown below:



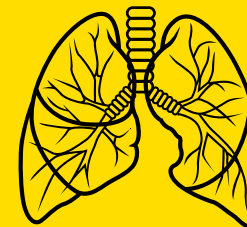
THE BRAIN

Headaches, anxiety and harmful effects on the central nervous system.



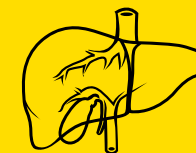
THE HEART

Problems caused throughout the cardiovascular system.



THE LUNGS

Irritation, inflammation, infection, asthma, chronic pulmonary disease and lung cancers.



THE LIVER

Serious impacts on the liver, spleen and blood.

In Oxford, 5.52% of all deaths in people aged 30+ occur due to long-term exposure to PM2.5.