

August 30, 2022, RAWSEP news paraphrased

The U S Midwest and the U S South

Alabama & New York State

[Feasibility of low-cost particle sensor types in long-term indoor air pollution health studies ...](#)

Nature

While monitoring of **PM2.5** concentrations has contributed to understanding and reducing ambient **PM2.5** to improve air quality standards, ...

RAWSEP View: See Episode 27 online.

Florida

[Grass fires will continue to be a concern until South Florida gets more rain - CBS News](#)

CBS News

"I just saw different fragments of **wood burning**. ... right there where it started cracking and it just falls and a huge gust of smoke came up.

RAWSEP View: In South Florida, grass fires are a concern without much rain.

Georgia

[Georgia communities mobilize against expansion of foul-smelling wood-burning energy](#)

WABE

Exhaust from Georgia Renewable Power's **wood**-burning biomass plant in ... this **wood**, it produces a ton of dust in this fine **particulate** matter that ...

RAWSEP View: MIAMI – Until South Florida gets more rain, **Miami-Dade Fire Rescue says grass fires will continue to be an issue of concern**. CBS4's was at the scene of a large grass fire new near 72 Street and SW 76 Avenue Wednesday afternoon. The fire is now contained but it certainly gave people in the area a big scare.

[Georgia communities mobilize against expansion of foul-smelling wood-burning energy](#)

WABE

Wood-burning plants have gained support as a source of biomass energy and new jobs that support the forestry industry. Georgia Power, the state's ...

RAWSEP View: Georgia communities mobilize against expansion of foul-smelling wood-burning energy A group of residents and environmentalists are fighting to prevent the world's largest wood pellet plant from coming to a predominantly Black and Hispanic community in south Georgia.

This time around, the Madison County Clean Power Coalition is galvanizing people to submit comments to the EPD and participate in virtual public hearings on Aug. 30 for permits requested for two Georgia Renewable Power's plants. The EPD permit would cover emissions thresholds for sulfur dioxide, nitrous oxide, volatile organic compounds and carbon monoxide.

Gina Ward, a leader of Madison's clean power group, says this is another way to inform the plant owners and local leaders that the people are keep a watchful eye over the pollution coming from plants. Before the wood pellet plant opens in Cook County, Ward recommends residents get outdoor air quality monitors. "I know exactly what they're worrying about and it's a real threat to their community," Ward said. While wood-generated electricity is not economically feasible in the U.S., it is more attractive in Europe where there are incentives for using this type of energy, Whitfield said. Whitfield argues that the air quality standards used by the EPD in Cook County violate the law and do not accurately reflect the harm to those who live closest to the plants. "They might say how does this one facility in this county affect the countywide air," she said. "What we want is for them to look at it on a smaller scale and think about why this neighborhood that's just getting pummeled "

[Georgia communities mobilize against expansion of foul-smelling wood-burning energy](#)

Georgia Recorder

There is a plan to build a **wood** pellet biomass plant in Adel Georgia but ... this **wood**, it produces a ton of dust in this fine **particulate** matter ...

[Citizens' group says data on particulate matter from GRP is a concern - mainstreetnews.com](#)

mainstreetnews.com

This comes as the Colbert power plant, which burns **wood** to generate electricity, is applying for an emissions permit from the Georgia Environmental ...

RAWSEP View: The plans call for Georgia-based Spectrum Energy to build a plant capable of producing 1.3 million tons of wood pellets annually, a product that is most commonly shipped overseas where the pellets are burned to generate electricity. Wood-burning plants have gained support as a source of biomass energy and new jobs that support the forestry industry. Georgia Power, the state's largest utility provider, has shifted some of its energy capacity away from coal and into the fuel coming from trees. But its detractors say the plants aren't worth the potential problems for people who are most vulnerable to the pollution and foul odors. About a mile away from the proposed Spectrum plant is the future home of another wood pellet manufacturer where Renewable Biomass Group plans to produce 450,000 tons of pellets annually. "What happens when you're processing all this wood, it produces a ton of dust in this fine particulate matter that when you breathe it in can be dangerous," said Jennifer Whitfield, an attorney for the environmental law center. "(Renewable's plant) is about a mile out from this sort of dense neighborhood in Adel, but it's kind of shocking how nestled in the community Spectrum is proposing to be," she said.

[Georgia communities mobilize against expansion of foul-smelling wood-burning energy](#)

Georgia Public Broadcasting

Exhaust from Georgia Renewable Power's **wood-burning** biomass plant in Madison County prompted state legislators to pass a law in 2021 against ...

RAWSEP View: And Adel City Councilwoman Celestine Hayes says that the water at her home and church smells like rotten eggs and that she worries about her husband who suffers from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and other neighbors with health problems. Treva Gear, a local native who founded Concerned Citizens of Cook County in 2020, said the city's west side is a blue-collar community where residents are already more exposed to the toxins in air and water from living close to smokestacks and warehouses that dot the landscape.

"Clean air is a civil right and the color of an individual's skin, their economic level or what side of railroad track they live on should not cause them to be overburdened by pollutants," Gear said. "Everybody has the right to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness but how can we pursue happiness when we struggle to breathe?"

Meanwhile, a group that successfully lobbied for a new state law last year to ban energy-producing plants from burning creosote-treated wood continues its fight against two wood-burning operations in Franklin and Madison counties in northeast Georgia.

North Carolina

[One person dies in Durham apartment fire on Wood Cottage Court - ABC11](#)

ABC11

They did report a strong smell of **smoke** and forced the door open to extinguish the fire. One person was found dead inside.

RAWSEP View: A fire caused the death of one person in North Carolina.

South Carolina

[Fire reported at DJJ campus Thursday morning - WLTX](#)

WLTX

Joe Cashion, with DJJ, said a staff member noticed **smoke** coming from the building housing the **wood** shop around 6:30 a.m. Thursday and called the ...

RAWSEP View: In South Carolina, a fire was caused at a wood shop.

West Virginia

[As EPA Prepares to Update Federal Air Quality Limits, Coal Dust Looms Large in Eunice](#)

Appalachian Voices

One of these pollutants is particulate matter with a diameter equal to or less than 2.5 micrometers, known as **PM 2.5**. Currently, the **PM 2.5** ...

RAWSEP View: In Eunice, West Virginia, PM 2.5 pollution is a problem.

Wisconsin

[American Lung Association Assisting Wood-Burning Stove Conversion in Iron County, LDF - WJJQ](#)

WJJQ Radio

The goal is to improve air quality by removing low efficiency **wood** stoves and replacing them with cleaner **burning wood**, pellet or gas stoves.

RAWSEP View: The lead to this story should be that wood burning stoves should be replaced by natural gas furnaces. There is no safe level of PM 2.5 particulate pollution. PM 2.5 is 90% of the emissions from wood burning.

In Wisconsin, Focus on Energy, which offers savings on energy efficient appliances, is offering savings on Air Purifiers for the first time, to remove unwanted particles from your home's air.



Just when you thought we ran out of ways to help you save, we added something fresh to the energy-efficient shelves. For a limited time, you can purchase **ENERGY STAR® certified room air purifiers** at the FOCUS ON ENERGY® Online Marketplace. Enjoy fresh air and fresh savings with a room air purifier designed to remove unwanted particles and allergens from your home's air—letting you and your family breathe easy, literally.

ENERGY STAR certified room air purifiers are **over 25% more energy efficient** than standard models, **saving consumers about \$15 annually on their utility bills**. These savings add up to almost \$120 over its lifetime!*



[SHOP AIR PURIFIERS](#)

U S West Coast

[UCLA Researchers Find Dangerous Combination of Extreme Heat and Smoke Affected 16.5 ...](#)

Sierra Sun Times

Wildfires release fine particulate matter that can lead to respiratory and ... These fire-related particles, known as **PM 2.5**, which are 0.0025 ...

RAWSEP View: This article on wildfires mentions PM 2.5

Washington

[Deep **Wood** Fire near Airway Heights now at 109 acres | krem.com](#)

KREM

DNR reports the fire has **burned** two structures and 109 acres. ... US Highway 2 is closed between **Wood** and Brooks Road.

[Deep **Wood** Fire burns over 100 acres near Airway Heights - YouTube](#)

YouTube

A brush fire broke out Sunday afternoon, prompting level 3 evacuations, **burning** 109 acres.

RAWSEP View: Spokane, Washington, the Deep Wood Fire has burned over 100 acres.

U S Northeast

Delaware

[Del. State Fire Marshall investigating fire at Thompson Island Brewing Company - WMDT](#)

WMDT

When units arrived, they found smoke and flames coming from an exhaust hood on the roof. Fire officials say a **wood burning** grill unit inside the ...

RAWSEP View: In Delaware, a wood burning grill started a fire at a Brewing Company.

New York

[Wildland fire doused near Lake Placid | News, Sports, Jobs](#)

Lake Placid News

... early Friday morning, Aug. 19, **burning** a 50-square-foot section of land in a blaze. ... **Wood** said the fire **burned** deep into the ground.

RAWSEP View: In Lake Placid, New York a fire burned a 50 square foot section of land.

[ANALYSIS: Congestion Pricing Will Lead to Better Air Quality in The Bronx](#)

Streetsblog NYC

Second, and more importantly, a large fraction of **PM2.5** concentrations at ground level comes from particulate matter formed by chemical reactions in ...

RAWSEP View: New York City is hoping that “congestion pricing” reducing PM 2.5 among other pollution from vehicles, will have good health outcomes.

Reduced Health Problems in NYC and 7 Neighboring Counties with Congestion Pricing

Health Outcome	Reduced Incidence per Year
Mortality	$\frac{3}{4} - 4\frac{1}{4}$
Non-fatal Heart Attacks	$\frac{1}{4} - 2\frac{1}{2}$
Hospital Admissions + Emergency Room Visits	$2\frac{3}{4}$
Acute Bronchitis	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Respiratory Symptoms	100
Work Loss Days	351
Asthma Exacerbation	$59\frac{1}{2}$

Washington, D.C.

[Recalls | CPSC.gov](#)

Consumer Product Safety Commission

... Heat-Related Explosion, Smoke Inhalation, Chemical Explosion, Electrical Smoke ... Wood, **Wood Burning** Fireplaces, Wood Shredders and Chippers ...

RAWSEP View: Some wood burning fireplaces are being recalled.

Canada

Alberta

[Wood Buffalo placed under heat warning and special air quality statement - MIX 103.7](#)

MIX 103.7

Just moments later another Advisory Alert was sent out warning residents that due to **smoke** from wildfires, a special air quality statement was put ...

RAWSEP View: In Alberta, Canada, where is a warning about air quality due to smoke from wildfires.

British Columbia

Carrie

Burned forest goes on for miles caused by a negligent person who started the Sparks Lake wildfire northeast of Kamloops B.C. was the caption of the picture Carrie put on social media.



Cameron

[qathet Regional District reviews woodstove conversion program - Powell River Peak](#)

Powell River Peak

Regional district will review extending the initiative locally to update **wood burning** appliances, converting them to high-efficiency, ...

RAWSEP View: The British Columbia, Canada woodstove exchange program should only be exchange of wood-burning appliances for natural gas appliances, in order to reduce PM 2.5 pollution in the province.

[Will Drax's claim that **burning** Canadian **wood** pellets is green go up in **smoke**? - Corporate Knights](#)

Corporate Knights

OECD investigates UK power company's sustainability claims as Drax becomes the largest **wood** pellet maker in Canada.

RAWSEP View: Drax, U K based, is becoming the largest wood pellet maker in Canada.

Australia

New Zealand

The U K

[Helen Fields - Favourite Things - Reaction.life](#)

Reaction.life

That **wood smoke** smell, when the fire first starts burning, is so evocative. When I light a fire it signifies a time to sit down and be quiet, ...

RAWSEP View: Island thought that Helen Fields should think about other ways to relax than burning wood. She missed the point of having a garden, which is to grow fruit and vegetables to eat. A fire enables Helen Fields to focus her thoughts on herself and to block out the rest of the world, allowing her to relax. Does she breathe particulates in deeply while in front of the fire, or is it her neighbors who receive most of the particulates? There are many other ways to sit down and be quiet. Knitting, or other boring "traditional" things. Helen Fields, a crime fiction writer was profiled and quoted as saying "Lighting a fire, whether it is inside on a log fire or outside on a bonfire, is one of the real joys of life for me. I suspect this goes back to my childhood in **the New Forest** too, every Sunday my parents would burn up everything they dug out of the garden" "That wood smoke smell, is so evocative. When I light a fire it signifies a time to sit down and be quiet, I stop time for a moment."

[GoFundMe campaign after fire destroys family's Clinkham **Wood** home | St Helens Star](#)

St Helens Star

"I'd been shopping and getting my child's school uniform and came home," said Celine, 25. "I put all the shopping away and I could smell **smoke**, but I ...

RAWSEP: A Go Fund Me page was set up when the home of a woman and her three children was ruined by a fire caused by an electrical fault involving a dryer. The woman said the family “lost everything”. One of the family’s pet dogs is also still missing after escaping the fire.

[Kwasi Kwarteng's criticism of wood-burning Drax broke the Big Energy omerta - Reaction](#)

Reaction.life

Yet **burning wood** remains **burning wood** – still creating even more CO2 than the coal it replaced. We are edging towards a future when better batteries ...

RAWSEP View: In the U K is rethinking wood burning Drax power plant, because of the emissions, including PM 2.5.

[Burning questions - Investors Chronicle](#)

Investors Chronicle

Drax didn't know. Having mostly switched to generating electricity from **wood** pellets instead of coal, it has been positioning itself as a green ...

RAWSEP View: See above.

[Twelve Brighton elms to be felled as trend for wood-burning stoves fuels spread of disease](#)

Brighton and Hove News

The latest loss of elms comes as the spread of the disease has been linked to the growing popularity of **wood-burning** stoves.

RAWSEP View: Island noted that, in Brighton, England, wood burning stoves have increased the risk of contaminated wood coming into the city. Brighton officials should have shut down wood burning in Brighton, but instead they issued a statement “We ask residents not to buy any logs for winter fuel if the supplier cannot guarantee that the wood isn’t elm.” twelve elms are due to be felled in Brighton in the coming week after they were found to have become infected with elm disease. “Our arboriculturists are all experts in protecting Brighton and Hove’s elms and it’s vital that we act as quickly as we can to contain the spread of infection. “Each summer, our arboriculture team faces a battle across the city against the tiny beetle which carries the deadly elm tree killing fungus known as elm disease (previously Dutch elm disease).“One of the most common ways for a tree to become infected is via beetles breeding on elm logs stored in the area.” These logs are likely to have been brought in from other parts of Sussex where there has been a massive rise in elm disease infection and subsequent logs becoming available.” In recent years, there has also been a rapid increase in the number of wood-burning stoves being sold in the area, increasing the risk of contaminated wood coming into the city.

[Germany in the European Union, and Europe](#) and the Middle East

Germany

[Germans are looking to firewood for energy as natural gas prices soar - Quartz](#)

Quartz

The fumes from **burning wood** also contain toxic chemicals. Although Germany's government deems **burning wood** for fuel as carbon-neutral, experts say the ...

RAWSEP View: In Germany, the wood burning industry is pushing wood as natural gas have become a scarcer commodity.

[Germans are looking to firewood for energy as natural gas prices soar - Yahoo Finance](#)

Yahoo Finance

The combination of **burning wood** and cutting down forests may increase carbon emissions. Recommended Stories.

RAWSEP View: In Germany, the combination of burning wood for residential heat and cutting down forests will increase carbon emission, and PM 2.5.

Israel

[Desperate for fuel, Gazans burn plastic despite serious environmental, health risks](#)

The Times of Israel

The process starts with the **burning of wood** in a furnace below a large mud-covered tank holding up to 1.5 tons of shredded plastic.

RAWSEP View: In Israel, residential wood burning in Gaza is criticized for environmental and health reasons.

Switzerland

[The Influence of Material Flow on Pellet Mill Performance | Biomassmagazine.com](#)

Biomass Magazine

Thus, all wood processors have dust management for safety reasons in common. ... With such a large amount of small **particles and wood dust**, ...

RAWSEP View:

Bathan, the author of this article is a Swiss lubricant company, that supplies machine lubricants to (wood) pellet mill plants, which ease material flow in pellet mills, and possibly may reduce (wood dust) particulate emissions from the plant.

Nigeria in Africa

Ghana

[Accra is one of world's top 10 most polluted cities – Report - Ghana Business News](#)

Ghana Business News

While exposures to fine particulate, or **PM2.5** pollution tend to be higher in cities located in low- and middle-income countries,

RAWSEP View: In Ghana, Accra is one of the world's top 10 most PM 2.5 polluted cities.

India in Asia

India

[India's Heatwaves Turn Deadlier With Unusually High Air Pollution - BQPrime](#)

BQPrime

Seasonal **particulate matter 2.5** levels in north, central, east and west India were all higher than the previous summer. North India fared the ...

RAWSEP View: In India, seasonal particulate matter, PM 2.5, levels in north, central and west India were all higher than the previous summer.

[India Clean Air Summit 2022: Punjab's municipal corporations need to be proactive and ...](#)

Tribune India

... has led to the development of clean air action plans with an aim to reduce **PM 2.5** pollution by 20-30 per cent by 2024 compared to 2017.

RAWSEP View: India has a clean air action plan with an aim to reduce PM 2.5 pollution by 30-30 percent by 2024 compared to 2017.

[Data: What is the trend in the disease burden of vector borne diseases in India? - FACTLY](#)

FACTLY

India is one of the high disease burdened countries in the world. It ranks second in the early deaths due to **PM 2.5**, the leading contributor to global ...

RAWSEP View: In India, PM 2.5 is the leading contributor to early death.

[10 most polluted cities in the world; here is the list IV News - irshi Videos](#)

irshi Videos

This means that people living in the said cities are exposed to **PM 2.5** levels, which are several times higher than the global average. Lima, Peru. An ...

RAWSEP View:

Research Papers and Technology

[This **Smoke** Could Make U.S. Troops Invisible - Popular Mechanics](#)

Popular Mechanics

Coded visibility” **smoke** could allow friendly troops to see, but block the ... Dense, billowy clouds of **smoke**, created by **burning wood** and other ...

RAWSEP View: Popular Mechanics makes the dubious claim that smoke created by burning wood could make U S troops invisible. More likely, it will make U S troops ill.

The Future