

Episode 56iK September 7, 2023. Michigan doctor's note required to stop open burning, Bristol complaint based system.

RAWSEP View: In Independence Township, Michigan, no permits are now required for open burning, but now a doctor's note for a complaining near neighbor is required to stop polluting open burning. Since any amount of PM2.5 is harmful to human health, according to the World Health Organization, a doctor's note should not be required. A near neighbor should not have to develop asthma or lung cancer before a near neighbor can make a complaint about PM2.5 entering their yards and infiltrating their homes from a wood burner's smoke. Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates. Michigan, Clarkston, Independence Township [Revision to open burning ordinance - Clarkston News](#) Clarkston News There has been a change to the open burn ordinance in Independence ... recreational burning is defined as the burning of seasoned wood in a ... Acceptable burn items include dry leaves, paper, brush, and wood scraps. All other items are prohibited. No leaf burning is allowed in the City of ... Revision to open burning ordinance September 6, 2023. There has been a change to the open burn ordinance in Independence Township. At the Aug. 8 regular meeting of the Independence Township Board of Trustees, approval was given to eliminate the requirements to obtain a burn permit for open burning on residential property. "All rules stay in place in relation to days and hours allowed per the burn calendar and what can be burned," said Township Fire Marshal Greg Brandt. "We are constantly looking for ways to improve inefficiencies and one of those ways is in this permitting process. Getting this permit was inconvenient to residents and used valuable time for fire department staff. It is important to note that the fire department will still respond to calls about open burning in the same way they did before the permit requirement was dropped." Open burning is allowed from April 1 through Nov. 30, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. and Dec. 1 through March 31, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. All fires must be completely extinguished after hours (no smoldering). Parcels of less than three acres must follow the burn date calendar, while parcels larger than three acres may burn any day. Regardless of acreage, weather – particularly wind – should be considered prior to burning to prevent fire spread and smoke. Burn dates for the rest of 2023 are Sept. 7, 16, 17, 19, 21, Oct. 1, 3, 5, 7, 15, 17, 19, 21, Nov. 2, 4, 5, 7, 16, 18, 19, 21, and Dec. 2, 3, 5, 7, 16, 17, 19, 21. Other rules to follow: All materials being burned must be from the site. No materials may be brought to the site for disposal. Open burning shall be constantly attended by a person 14 years of age or older until the fire is extinguished. A source of extinguishment shall be present and adequate during hours of burning. No burning shall be permitted within 50 feet of any structure. Provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading. No burning along roadways. No flammable liquids shall be permitted to ignite the fire (i.e. gasoline, kerosene, starter fluid, etc.). No burning shall be allowed on construction sites. The size of the pile to be burned shall be no larger than six feet in diameter. Burning violations may be subject to fines in accordance to civil infraction penalty, and privileges revoked. Acceptable burn items include dry leaves, paper, brush, and wood scraps. The Independence Fire Department has the right to extinguish any fire deemed by fire department personnel to be a hazard or nuisance. In addition, recreational burning is defined as the burning of seasoned wood in a manufactured device, specifically designed for the containment of the fire, with the intent of using the fire for cooking or social purposes. A container designed for recreational burning must be used. Materials to be burned shall be consistent with firewood, or other seasoned hard wood. All recreational fires must be tended to and extinguished completely when finished. It is also the policy of Independence Township to prohibit open burning within 400 feet of any residence whose occupants have a documented serious medical condition that is aggravated or triggered by the exposure to smoke from open burning, unless allowed under the provisions of this policy. Residents are required to submit documentation from a medical doctor to the fire department supporting the diagnosis of a medical condition that is serious and aggravated or triggered by exposure to smoke from open burning. This evidence must be provided annually and will be kept on file with the fire department. For more information, visit [indtwp.com/burnpermit](http://indtwp.com/burnpermit)

United Kingdom, Bristol

[Bristol residents unlikely to be fined for using log burners - BBC News](#)

BBC Burning wood emits harmful pollution known as PM2.5, which can cause serious health problems. Cabinet members approved new powers to issue fines to ... to complain if they see a lot of smoke coming from nearby chimneys. [New policy to clamp down on log burners is a 'bit of a joke' - Bristol 247](#) Bristol 247 Burning wood emits harmful pollution known as fine particulate matter, or PM2.5, which can cause serious health problems. Independent journalism is ...on log burners is a 'bit of a joke' September 6, 2023.

Excerpts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates.

City Hall chiefs have admitted that people using log burners in Bristol are unlikely to be fined as the new policy is a “bit of a joke”. Bristol City Council has been given new powers to issue £300 fines but does not have the funding to enforce the new stricter rules. Burning wood emits harmful pollution known as fine particulate matter, or PM2.5, which can cause serious health problems. Cabinet members approved new powers to issue fines to anyone caught using non-compliant stoves or fuels, but admitted the policy has “no teeth”.

Read more: [New fines of up to £300 for using log burners](#)

The frank admission raises doubts that anybody will actually be caught or fined under the new rules, which are intended to reduce pollution levels and improve air quality. The Labour cabinet signed off the new policy during a meeting on Tuesday, September 5. Councillor Kye Dudd, cabinet member for climate, said: “From a public health point of view, there’s no safe level of particulate matter. If you’re concerned about health then the advice is don’t burn wood at home. “But if you’re going to do that, you have the legal right to do it, within the regulations. make sure you’ve got a Defra-compliant stove, and compliant fuels.” Councils in England were given new powers by the government about a year ago. **In theory, council staff can now issue written warnings and then fines to anybody caught burning wood or using a stove that isn’t on a list of government-approved fuels and appliances.** But Bristol City Council has not been given any extra funding to enforce the new powers, and will instead **rely on neighbours to complain** if they see a lot of smoke coming from nearby chimneys. Councillors also questioned how they were supposed to act on complaints. Councillor Nicola Beech added: “The policy hasn’t **really got any teeth because of the lack of funding.** This is a real **public health issue.** “As we see the cost of living crisis hit more, we know people are using **inappropriate means to heat** and power their homes because they can’t afford any alternative.” Reporting by a local democracy reporter for Bristol.

World

[World can now breathe easier - Newswise](#)

Newswise

Newswise — Ambient fine particulate matter (PM2.5) is the world's leading environmental health risk factor. At only 2.5 micrometers or smaller, ...

[World can now breathe easier but further mitigation still needed, air pollution study finds](#)

Phys.org

Ambient fine particulate matter (PM2.5) is the world's leading environmental health risk factor. At only 2.5 micrometers or smaller, ...

Minnesota, Alexandria

[Air Quality Alert extended through Wednesday evening for the area | Local News - KXRA](#)

KXRA

Heavy smoke is currently impacting the Red River valley region in ... such as outdoor burning, and use of residential wood burning devices.

Nevada, Burning Man

[No longer stranded, tens of thousands clean up and head home after Burning Man floods](#)

WOODTV.com

Vehicles line up to leave the Burning Man festival in Black Rock Desert, ... of hallucinogens and nudity before the burning of the wooden effigy.

New Mexico, Albuquerque

[Environment Department and City of Albuquerque announce public meetings on Advanced ...](#)

City of Albuquerque

Wood burning is not currently prohibited; however, please consider limiting or avoiding wood burning where possible to help protect our air.

Oregon, Portland

[Camp Creek fire threatens Portland's drinking water - Axios](#)

Axios

A photo of a mountain free line with smoke in the air. ... potential for an "increase in fire activity within the perimeter," Dante-Wood said.

Canada, Quebec, Senneterre

[What the trees are telling us - CBC](#)

CBC

Months after the fire, the burned-out forest on the logging road near Senneterre, ... “It's worrisome to see so much wood burning,” she said.

New Zealand

[Rotorua air pollution: Death estimates show air quality improvements are saving lives](#)

NZ Herald

Wood burners in Rotorua were the main source of the pollution. ... to move limits from PM10 to PM2.5. Wood smoke is about 90 per cent the latter.

United Kingdom, Drax

[NRDC analysis shows wind and solar alleviating need to burn wood in UK power stations](#)

Biofuels Digest

In the first six months of 2023 (January-June), the use of genuine renewables avoided the burning of 32 million tons of wood in bioenergy power ...

India, Delhi

[PM10, PM2.5 levels fell up to 45% in 9 years: Rai - Daily Pioneer](#)

Daily Pioneer

Rai said that work on a 'Winter Action Plan' to tackle any rise in air pollution levels has begun. The levels of particulate matter (PM) 10 and 2.5 ...Speaking to reporters after a meeting with officials of the environment department, Environment Minister Gopal Rai said that in a "big relief" for Delhiites, the PM10 and PM2.5 levels have declined by an average of 45 per cent in the last nine years.

India, Delhi

[Delhi's PM 10 and PM 2.5 Levels Drop by Over 40% in Nine Years | Weather.com](#)

weather.com

The Delhi government will organize an 'Environmental Experts' Meet' regarding the winter action plan at the Delhi Secretariat on September 12 ...

India

[Delhi's air pollution levels declined 45% since 2014, says Environment Minister](#)

India Today

... 42% reduction was registered in PM10 pollution from 2014 till August 2023 and 46% reduction in pollution in PM 2.5 for the same time period."

India, Delhi

[Delhi's air pollution down by 45% since 2014: Minister Gopal Rai - The Indian Express](#)

The Indian Express

The concentration of particulate matter in Delhi's air has reduced by 45 per cent on average over the past nine years, ... PM 2.5 (annual average).

Indonesia, Jakarta

[Jakarta Air Quality Still Unhealthy Today - Tempo.co English](#)

Tempo.co English

The air quality of a number of Indonesian cities that fall into the unhealthy category are Depok with a PM 2.5 level of 74 micrograms per cubic ...

PM2.5 and human health

[Climate Change a 'Major Threat' for Respiratory Patients, Experts Warn | MedPage Today](#)

Medpage Today

... as a 2019 estimate indicated that particulate matter with aerodynamic diameter <2.5 µm (PM2.5) was the cause of 6.7 million deaths globally.

A letter sent on 8/28/2023 to the Assistant Attorney Generals threatening to sue the EPA over wood stove certification follows.

Dear Assistant Attorney General,

Attached is a letter that was sent to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) Director Dr. Jeanne Marrazzo, former acting NIAID Director Dr. Hugh Auchincloss and National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Dr. Lawrence Tabak regarding regulation and the ability to shutdown PM2.5 polluting indoor residential wood burners. PM2.5 pollution is known to cause antibiotic resistance making infectious disease pandemics more likely and uncontrollable.

The letter asks Dr. Marrazzo to apply a "Parallel Track" to indoor residential wood burning pollution in 2023. This "Parallel Track" would include both EPA wood stove certification and a complaint-based system using PurpleAir PM2.5

monitor data collected from the yards of near neighbors of indoor residential wood burners. This would be a way to address the very real impact of PM2.5 pollution which EPA wood stove certification fails to address. We propose that the use of PurpleAir monitors would provide important data on PM2.5 air pollution that is currently missing in the EPA wood stove certification.

This proposal is modeled on the approach Dr. Anthony Fauci used in 1989 that allowed a “Parallel Track” of both the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) use of AZT for AIDS that had the unfortunate side effect of blindness along with a second drug, Ganciclovir, that actually cured the blindness.

An earlier letter sent to your office asked that you include a complaint-based system of regulating indoor residential wood burning using PurpleAir PM2.5 data in your suit against the EPA. Indoor residential wood burners are already ineffectively certified by the EPA. This violates the EPA’s own National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) emission limits of 35 micrograms per cubic meter in a 24-hour period. Using data from PurpleAir PM2.5 monitors in the yards of near neighbors who complain of PM2.5 from hyper-localized indoor residential wood burners would provide the missing and important evidence of this type of air pollution.

Currently if a near neighbor’s complaint is made to a local health department, a complaint using federal NAAQS exceedance data is not considered as a basis for a complaint against neighboring indoor residential wood burning. It is also not considered as a basis for shutting down the wood burning appliance when the indoor residential wood stove has been federally EPA certified. Lawsuits for nuisance are expensive and beyond the means of the average American and are not considered precedents in courts generally. Contacting state agencies to shut down polluting wood stove use that affects the health and lives of near neighbors has been unproductive because decisions made by the EPA determine the decisions made by state agencies.

Although the scope of your lawsuit seems confined to asking the EPA to continue their wood stove certification program as is, albeit at a faster pace, we ask that you consider the intent behind asking the EPA to tighten their standards for wood stove certification on a regular basis. The intent of an Environmental Protection Agency is to protect the environment. This has perhaps been narrowly construed to be protecting air, water and ground from contamination from industries only. But United States citizens should actually benefit from this environmental protection as well. Tightening wood stove standards on a regular basis should result in protecting the environment as well as protecting United States citizens from harm from the air, water, and ground. We believe that the EPA’s responsibilities are inextricably connected with public health responsibilities of other government agencies such as NIAID.

Please try to accomplish something meaningful for the American people with this lawsuit by considering using a Parallel Track to include PM2.5 data in future decisions about air quality standards. Although I am not your constituent, by commencing to sue a federal agency you are representing me as a citizen of the United States and in that sense as your constituent. Thank you, Sent to

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<https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-please-attach-pdf-letter-to-niaid-director-dr-jeanne-marrazzo-to-an-email-from-you-to-jeanne-marrazonih-gov/>

Episode 56GF July 19, 2023. The Ask: Request a complaint-based system from 10 Attorney Generals suing the E P A to give wood stove users “certainty”. The Ask: Emails of 3 NIH officials [jeanne.marrazzo@nih.gov](mailto:jeanne.marrazzo@nih.gov); [hugh.auchincloss@nih.gov](mailto:hugh.auchincloss@nih.gov); [Lawrence.tabak@nih.gov](mailto:Lawrence.tabak@nih.gov) Emails of 13 Assistant Attorney Generals, Deputy Attorney Generals and General Counsel preparing to sue the EPA to provide clarity for indoor residential wood stove manufacturers, vendors, and users. Instead, the assistant attorneys general should ask for a PM2.5 pollution complaint based system in place of the failed wood stove certification program. The states involved are Alaska, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington, as well as the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency. A new icon has been added to the RAWSEPresidents Website, which is now the nearest right icon. The icon is an ask that has already been described in Episode 56G B (description of the parties who should be at the table when deciding on “safe” wood stove emission limits and fence line measurements, rather than wood stove certification) and (emails to contact 10 Deputy or Assistant Attorney Generals and one General Counsel) (those PDFs are included at the icon link). Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates, see <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com> and click on the nearest right icon for The Ask: 1)Email PDF letters to 3 officials of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and NIAID <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-please-attach-pdf-letter-to-niaid-director-dr-jeanne-marrazzo-to-an-email-from-you-to-jeanne-marrazzonih-gov/> The Ask 2)Email PDF letters to 13 Assistant Attorneys Generals, Deputy Attorney Generals and General Counsel <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-please-contact-10-attorneys-general-about-august-2023-suit-versus-e-p-a-asking-for-certainty-for-wood-stove-users-rawsep-asks-for-complaint-based-sytem-based-on-pm2-5-monitor-data-exceeding-e-p/> To the right of that 3)“Barbie Goes To The Dating Game” <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-barbie-goes-to-the-dating-game/> To the right of that 4)“Cookies that may contain Rocks are recalled” <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/cookies-that-may-contain-rocks-are-recalled/> to the right of that 5)“The Fox Owns the Forest” card game <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/the-fox-owns-the-forest-card-game-tba/> then to the right of that, the latest months, 6)September & 7)August & 8)July 2023, of PDFs of articles with U R L’s to search on <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-september-2023-pdfs-of-urls/> <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-august-2023-pdfs-of-urls/> and <https://rawsepresidents.wordpress.com/1-july-2023-pdfs-of-urls/> To the right of that, 9)Stickers to handout for RAWSEP, 10) Flyers to handout for RAWSEP, Games such as 11)Bingo for RAWSEP, 12)Crosswords for RAWSEP 13)PM2.5JeopardyFree game <https://youtu.be/Lnsg32pYDnc> 14)PM2.5FreeMonopoly <https://youtu.be/cUCK1pscOnQ> & EndWoodSmokeMonopoly 9e)“Vending Machines for PM2.5 monitors”, and 15)icon links to 30 minute Youtube videos and Spotify podcasts as well as podcasts.google.com, Castbox and PocketCast. PocketCast is only Free on the phone App. Pocket Cast works on Apple phones) and, below those icons, icon links to monthly URL’s of PDFs from June 2023 to May 2022.