Permits are required for the installation of all solid fuel burning appliances. Any wood or other solid fuel burning appliance installed without a permit and approved inspection is a code violation and may invalidate your fire insurance policy.

No used solid fuel burning appliance (wood stoves, pellet stoves, manufactured fireplaces) may be bought, sold or installed in new or existing buildings unless it has been certified to meet not only the EPA standards, but Washington States stricter standards. To find out if your stove is certified, go to [www.spokanecleanair.org/woodheating](http://www.spokanecleanair.org/woodheating) and follow the link for listings of Washington State Certified appliances. No new or used factory-built fireplace shall be installed unless it is certified and labeled in accordance as per ASTM E2558, “Standard Test Method for Determining Particulate Matter Emission from Fires in Low Mass Wood Burning Fireplaces.” Site built (masonry) fireplaces may continue to be built but may not be used during impaired air quality conditions unless they have been tested and labeled as meeting the EPA standards. Fireplaces shall have a tight fitting damper, an outside source for combustion air and tight fitting glass or metal doors unless meeting the exceptions in the code.

How do I apply for a permit?
A complete application identifying the type of appliance proposed is all that’s necessary to submit your permit application. Permit applications are available at our offices or on our website [https://www.spokecounty.org/478/Permit-Applications-Forms-and-Guides](https://www.spokecounty.org/478/Permit-Applications-Forms-and-Guides).

Listed appliances:
In addition to the above emission related requirements, appliances which are “approved” or “listed” by approved testing agencies, such as Underwriters Laboratories (U.L.), the International Code Council (I.C.C.), etc., are strongly recommended—these units have been tested and approved under extreme conditions. If you have purchased or are using a “listed” appliance, follow the listing instructions for installation and clearance requirements. Note: Appliances installed in garages shall be a minimum of 18” above the floor per the International Mechanical Code. Vehicle barrier/protection may be required depending on how the appliance is situated in the garage.

**Manufactured Home installations:**
Wood burning appliances to be installed in mobile/manufactured homes must be specifically “listed” for that purpose. Do not install unlisted appliances in manufactured homes. Permits are required to be obtained from the Washington State Manufactured Home Division, Department of Labor and Industries located at 901 N. Monroe, Spokane, WA (324-2640).

**Combustion Air:**
All solid fuel burning appliances must be provided with a source of primary combustion air from outside the structure, connected to the appliance as per manufacturers instructions. The air inlet shall originate at a point below the firebox. The duct shall be 4 inches or greater in diameter, not to exceed 20 feet in length, and be installed as per manufacturer’s instructions.

Combustion air may be supplied to the room in which the solid fuel burning appliance is located in lieu of direct ducting, provided that one of the following conditions is met:
1. The solid fuel burning appliance is part of a central heating plant and installed in an undconditioned space in conformance with the International Mechanical Code: or
2. The solid fuel burning appliance is installed in exist-
ing construction directly on a concrete floor or surrounded by masonry materials as in a fireplace. The combustion air terminus shall be located as close to the solid fuel burning appliance as possible and shall be provided with a barometric damper or equivalent. The combustion air source shall be specified by the manufacturer or no less than 4 inches in diameter, or the equivalent in area or as approved.

**Vent connector:**

The vent connector or stove pipe is the pipe that connects the appliance to the chimney. The minimum clearance from a single wall vent connector to an unprotected combustible wall or ceiling is 18”.

**Chimneys:**

Chimneys shall be constructed of masonry in accordance with the International Residential Code requirements or shall be approved factory built assemblies “listed” or “approved” by U.L., ICC - Evaluation Services, or other recognized agencies for use with wood burning or other solid fuel burning appliances. The “listed” or “approved” chimney assemblies shall be installed in accordance with their listings. The required clearance from the chimney to combustibles will be indicated on each section of chimney. The minimum clearance for an interior masonry chimney is 2”. The minimum clearance for an exterior masonry chimney is 1”.

**Chimney height termination:**

The chimney shall terminate at a point not less than 2 feet above any portion of a structure within a 10 foot radius of the chimney but not less than 3’ above the highest point where the chimney passes through the roof.

**Wood burning furnaces:**

Wood burning furnaces must be installed according to their approved “listing.” Such furnaces shall also be listed by the EPA and Washington State for emission standards. “Add-on” furnaces must be listed and approved specifically for that use.

Duct systems for all wood or solid fuel burning appliances must, at a minimum, comply with the requirements of NFPA 89-M (Table 2-3).

**Inspections**

Inspection and approval of your solid fuel-burning appliance is required prior to use. Items reviewed generally relate to required clearances to combustibles and installation of any clearance reducing protection.

**Regulations related to wood burning**

Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency enforces state and local regulations for solid fuel burning devices (e.g. wood stoves, pellet stoves, fireplace inserts).

Spokane Regional Clean Air ....................... (509) 477-4727
Burn Info Line .........................................(509) 477-4710
www.spokanecleanair.org

**Other brochures that may be helpful**

BP-4 Permit Fee Schedule
BP-6 Residential Building Permits
BP-51 Application Submittal Requirements for Building Permits

For more information or an appointment contact:
Spokane County
Department of Building and Planning
1026 West Broadway Avenue
Spokane, WA 99260-0050
(509) 477-3675              bp@spokanecounty.org
http://www.spokanecounty.org/247/Building-Planning
CHIMNEY MUST TERMINATE A MINIMUM OF 2 FEET ABOVE ANY POINT MEASURED WITHIN 10 FEET OR 2 FEET ABOVE RIDGE

LISTED METAL CHIMNEY

CLEARANCE AS REQUIRED BY LISTING

COMBUSTIBLE WALL

VENT CONNECTOR
MECHANICAL FASTENERS AT PIPE CONNECTIONS

REQUIRED CLEARANCES
APPROVED WALL PROTECTION (IF NECESSARY)

1 INCH MINIMUM AIR SPACE

REQUIRED CLEARANCE FLOOR COVERING AND HEARTH EXTENSION AS REQUIRED

Outside combustion air duct connected directly to appliance

NOTE: SHEET ROCK IS CONSIDERED A COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL
Please note that while every effort is made to assure the accuracy of the information contained in this brochure it is not warranted for accuracy. This document is not intended to address all aspects or regulatory requirements for a project and should serve as a starting point for your investigation. For detailed information on a particular project, permit, or code requirement refer directly to applicable file and/or code/regulatory documents or contact the appropriate division or staff.