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Wood-burning furnaces offer heating advantages

By Carole Terrell

Question: How does the outdoor furnace work?

Greg Scott, Scotts

Firewood: The Central Boiler Classic outdoor wood furnace can heat 100 percent of your home and hot water. Heated water from the Classic is pumped to the home or building through insulated, underground ThermoPEX piping - the most efficient way to move heat over distances. The Classic is designed to work with any existing heating system. A heat exchanger or direct circulation conveys the heat into a forced-air furnace, radiant baseboard, radiant floor heating system, pool or hot tub and large applications such as a greenhouse, Laundromat or a carwash. The Classic can provide heat for all your domestic hot water by adding a water-to-water heat exchanger. You can turn off your hot water heater and save \$30 to \$80 or more per month.

Q: What are the advantages of using wood for heating?

A: Wood heat offers many advantages. Wood is renewable, inexpensive and often free. Conventional sources of heat such as

propane, natural gas, fuel oil and electricity deplete our irreplaceable fossil fuels.

They are also subject to constant price fluctuations. The Central Boiler Classic takes the age-old idea of burning wood and modernizes it. By keeping the fire outside the home, it eliminates the dangers and mess associated with traditional indoor wood stoves. It provides a heat source free of foreign nation influence and the "grip of big oil."

Q: How energy efficient is the wood-burning furnace?

A: Central Boiler's innovative, industry-leading design maximizes efficiency. The exclusive Ripple Top and water-cooled HeatLock Baffle firebox design offer more surface area between the water and the fire to achieve better heat transfer. The Classic also is sprayed with a waterproof urethane insulation to keep the heat in and also use industrial-quality siding to withstand the elements and time. This all adds up to faster recovery times and less wood consumption. Generally, the Classic uses 25 percent to 50 percent

less wood compared to traditional wood furnaces or other brands of outdoor wood furnaces.

Central Boiler has also developed a Dual Fuel Ready model, which allows the furnace to be fitted with a fuel oil, natural gas or propane burner. This allows the customer to maintain heat in their furnace as a backup in case they leave for an extended period of time. Laboratory tests have shown efficiencies over 85 percent with these fuels.

Q: Will people be able to see a change in their heating bill after installing this furnace?

A: By virtually eliminating your heating costs, the Classic can often pay for itself in the first two years of operation. Over a 10-year period, a homeowner or business may save \$10,000 to \$50,000 or more in heating costs.

Q: Can the furnace heat multiple buildings?

A: One of the many advantages of the Central Boiler Classic is the ability to heat multiple buildings from one location.

Q: Should a certain type of wood or wood pellets be

used in the furnace?

A: The Classic is to be fueled with untreated wood only. No need to split your logs.

Q: Are different colors available?

A: The Classic is available in nine different colors, one that's sure to complement the exterior of your home. Currently available are black, white, charcoal, brown, tan, blue, red, camouflage or green, except the Classic CL 7260 and Pallet Burner which are only available in charcoal.

Q: Can this heating system be installed by a do-it-yourselfer?

A: Scott's Firewood is an authorized Central Boiler

dealer. They provide exceptional customer service and besides the sale of your Classic furnaces, they also install, stock hydronic heating supplies and they offer financing options. For those customers that wish to make their own installations, Scott's Firewood can provide the necessary supplies.

Q: How often should the furnace be cleaned?

A: The large firebox is designed for easy loading of wood and removal of ash. Prior to loading the firebox, stir the ashes. If ash removal is necessary, just simply shovel them out the front door. Twice a year, the water quality of the furnace

is checked with a user friendly test kit provided with each Classic furnace.

Q: How does the furnace hold up in severe weather?

A: The Classic is sprayed with a waterproof urethane insulation to keep the heat in and also use industrial quality siding to withstand the elements and time.

Name: Greg Scott

Company: Scott's Firewood - Central Fireplace and Boiler dealer, 25 New Clyde Highway, Canton, 648-1312

Title: Co-owner

Experience: 3+ years in outdoor wood furnaces and 30+ years in firewood

PHOTO by Steve Dixon



Greg Scott puts wood into a Central Boiler Outdoor Wood Furnace at Scott's Firewood in Canton. This furnace can heat 100 percent of your home and hot water. The furnaces are available in a variety of colors and there is no need to split the logs.