

WOOD-FIRED COMMERCIAL COOKING (WFCC) BEST PRACTICES

The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency recognizes that many businesses strive to minimize their air quality impacts to neighbors and community. Here is a list of WFCC best practices:

WOOD-FIRED PIZZA OVENS, SMOKER OVENS AND GRILLS

(including rotisseries and broilers)

Design and Operation

- Pizza ovens should feature the ability to operate on both wood and gas, if situated in a densely
 populated area, and include the following state-of-the-art aspects: low ceiling, sizable insulation,
 special refractory materials, careful positioning of the exhaust vent and a small mouth (oven
 opening)
- Wood fuel should be seasoned hardwood (often apple) with a moisture-content 20% or less
- Use a meter, as necessary, to check hardwood moisture content
- Pizza oven fires are started with dry kindling and fire starter
- · Wood fires are small and hot
- Use a temperature gauge to monitor the oven temperature
- Smoker ovens operate on either both gas and hardwood, or electricity and hardwood, and the unit only emits smoke when the air-tight oven door is opened (to place and retrieve cooked products). Such ovens use much less wood (perhaps 5 logs/day), and reportedly provide more consistent quality of finished food product, in a much shorter amount of time, with significantly less emissions
- *Grills* operate on any of the following combinations: gas and hardwood; electricity and hardwood; gas, electricity and hardwood; or gas/electricity and hardwood /charcoal

Awareness of Emissions Release

- Emissions are vented vertically, augmented by an adequate exhaust fan
- Little or no visible emissions (smoke), after start-up
- Exhaust stack is raised sufficiently to prevent building-wake problems
- Emissions are discharged in such a manner as to not create a nuisance

Air Pollution Control Equipment (Wood-Fired Grills)

For wood-fired grills only, the emissions may be controlled by either a wet scrubber or sizable
pollution control units (for example: electro static and carbon filters), if the business elects to use
charcoal, charcoal/hardwood, or solely hardwood

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