



BEST WOOD JUDGE

Firewood & Tree Service

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TREE & SHRUB REMOVAL. TREE TRIMMING. LOT CLEARING. STUMP GRINDING. DRIED FIREWOOD. WOODCHIPS. GROUND WOOD MULCH

IMPORTANT TIPS

FOR EASIER FIRE STARTING & BURNING

FROM MR. WOOD JUDGE HIMSELF

Wood from **THE BEST WOOD JUDGE** has been dried – It has spent the last year basking in the warm summer breezes of beautiful Waukesha, Wisconsin. However, every fall and winter we get that pesky rain and snow! This deposits moisture on the surface of the wood and makes it more difficult to start. **Please read the following information. It is extremely important.** It will help you to start your fire easier:

- Put a tarp over the wood or store it under a roof if storing the wood outside. Whether you store your wood outside or in the garage, the **most important** tip I can give you is to bring whatever wood you will burn into the house (not just into the garage) at least a day before burning it **and** be sure to place it so air can easily circulate around the pieces (cross stacking works well). This practice serves two important functions:

First: Any moisture/dampness will be dried off the surface of the wood. The energy otherwise used for drying the surface moisture can be channeled into raising the temperature of the wood to combustion temperature.

Second, the temperature of the wood will be raised to room temperature. On very cold days, the difference between the indoor and outdoor temperature could be almost **100 degrees!!** Since the ignition (combustion) temperature of wood averages 450 degrees, warming it to room temperature will bring the wood 25% close to being able to start burning.

***MORE TIPS ON OTHER SIDE – TURN OVER ***

In addition to bringing the wood inside the house beforehand, be sure to use plenty of paper and kindling under smaller pieces of cross-stacked wood. After the fire gets going, add progressively larger wood one piece at a time rather than stuffing the fireplace full all at once. (Again, this removes a lot of the heat needed to ignite the wood.) Once each log begins to burn well, you may add more wood.

- Another bit of important information concerns draft (how much air is added to the fire). When you have a good fire going – nice & hot with plenty of coals – giving the fire more air will accelerate the rate of burning and heat output. HOWEVER adding too much air to a delicate fledgling fire sends most of the hot air up the chimney depriving the young fire of the energy needed to heat the wood so it will start burning properly. Simply stated, if you add air and the fire looks better, you're o.k.; if you add air and the fire looks worse, it is moving in the wrong direction.

It is important to note that after many years making fires I occasionally find myself trying to shortcut my own tips and run into some of the same problems my customers may have. Starting a fire isn't just crumpling a piece of paper, throwing a big chunk of wood on top of it and lighting a match. Like most things "there is a lot more to it" in order to be successful.

These tips will make your fire starting much easier and enjoyable. Thank you for being a Best Wood Judge customer – we look forward to a lengthy relationship.

Have a warm and cozy winter, and **THANK YOU** for buying
your firewood from **THE BEST WOOD JUDGE!!**