

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Lisa Isaacs, Administrator
Woodstove Replacement Program
760.914.0388
Ljm.isaacs@gmail.com

COUNTY-SUPPORTED WOODSTOVE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM REMAINS OPEN WITH ADDITIONAL VENDOR

Alpine County, CA – All Alpine County property owners who want to replace an old woodstove or wood fireplace with significant cost savings are encouraged to immediately take advantage of Alpine County's Woodstove Replacement Program. Funding is limited and available on a *'first-come, first-served'* basis through participating retailers only. To be eligible for replacement with a more efficient and cleaner heating system (wood, pellet or gas), the existing wood-burning system must be a residential or commercial building's main heat source and it must be located in Alpine County.

Pre-1990 wood-burning stoves and fireplaces qualify for \$1,500 toward the cost of a new EPA-compliant wood-burning stove or fireplace. Alternatively, \$2,000 is available for a new pellet or gas heating system. For wood-burning stoves or fireplaces manufactured and installed *after* 1990, \$2,000 will be paid toward a new and much cleaner-burning pellet or gas heating system.

Subsidized amounts are paid by Alpine County to participating retailers upon install completion, not to individuals or property owners. Shared costs will be required, with amounts dependent on product selections and specific job needs. All replaced stoves must also be relinquished, with new installations permitted by the Alpine County Building Department, including smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) detectors.

Interested persons should immediately contact one of the County's two participating retailers for more information, including product selections:

- *Sierra Hearth & Home* on Highway 49 in Jackson. Call Shirley Hampton at (209) 223-4007
- *South Y Fireplace* at the Y in South Lake Tahoe. Call Laray Taylor at (530) 541-6833

Program funding was made available through a recent agreement between the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District, including Alpine County. With several hundred thousand dollars between them, Air District board members from the counties of Alpine and Mono and the Town of Mammoth Lakes chose to spend these allotted 'Environmental Public Benefit Funds' to directly benefit everyone by providing funding assistance to update heating systems and significantly reduce wood smoke.

Sierra Hearth & Home and *South Y Fireplace* are the only participating retailers providing the program's necessary services and customer savings. All other qualified retailers in the region opted out of participating, citing remote location challenges and "enough existing business."

For more information, contact Alpine County's Woodstove Replacement Program Administrator at (760) 914-0388.

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