

Creosote Pressure-Treated Wood Consumer Information Sheet

You've probably heard quite a bit about preservative in treated lumber products. It's important that you know all the facts. That's why we agree with the Environmental Protection Agency that you should be aware of the following common sense information.

Consumer Information

This wood has been preserved by pressure treatment with an EPA-registered pesticide containing creosote to protect it from insect attack and decay. Wood treated with creosote should be used only where such protection is important.

Creosote penetrates deeply into and remains in the pressure-treated wood for a long time. Exposure to creosote may present certain hazards. Therefore, the following precautions should be taken both when handling the treated wood and in determining where to use the treated wood.

Use Site Precautions

Wood treated with creosote should not be used where it will be in frequent or prolonged contact with bare skin (for example, chairs and other outdoor furniture) unless an effective sealer has been applied.

Creosote treated wood should not be used in residential interiors. Creosote-treated wood in interiors of industrial buildings should be used only for industrial building components which are in ground contact and are subject to decay or insect infestation and wood block flooring. For such uses, two coats of an appropriate sealer must be applied. Sealers may be applied at the installation site.

Wood treated with creosote should not be used in the interiors of farm buildings where there may be direct contact with domestic animals or livestock which may crib (bite) or lick the wood.

In interiors of farm buildings where domestic animals or livestock are unlikely to crib (bite) or lick the wood, creosote-treated wood may be used for building components which are in ground contact and are subject to decay or infestation if two coats of an effective sealer are applied. Sealers may be applied at the installation site.

- Do not use creosote treated wood for farrowing or brooding facilities.
- Do not use treated wood under circumstances where the preservatives may become a component of food or animal feed. Examples of such use would be structures or containers for storing silage food.
- Do not use treated wood for cutting boards or counter-tops.
- Only treated wood that is visibly clean and free of surface residues should be used for patios, decks and walkways.
- Do not use treated wood for construction of those portions of beehives which may come in contact with honey.
- Creosote-treated wood should not be used where it may come in direct or indirect contact with public drinking water, except for uses involving incidental contact such as docks and bridges.
- Do not use creosote-treated wood where it may come in direct or indirect contact with drinking water for domestic animals or livestock, except for uses involving incidental contact such as docks and bridges.

Approved by the U.S.
Environmental Protection Agency

Handling Precautions

Dispose of treated wood by ordinary trash collection or burial.

Treated wood should not be burned in open fires or stoves, fireplaces or residential boilers, because toxic chemicals may be produced as part of the smoke and ashes. Treated wood from commercial or industrial use (e.g. construction sites may be burned only in commercial or industrial incinerators or boilers in accordance with State and Federal regulations.

Avoid frequent or prolonged inhalation of sawdust from treated wood. When sawing and machining treated wood, wear a dust mask. Whenever possible these operations should be performed outdoors to avoid indoor accumulations of airborne sawdust from treated wood.

Avoid frequent or prolonged skin contact with creosote-treated wood. When handling the treated wood, wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants and use gloves impervious to the chemicals (for example, gloves that are vinyl-coated).

When power-sawing and machining, wear goggles to protect eyes from flying particles.

After working with the wood, and before eating, drinking, and use of tobacco products, wash exposed areas thoroughly.

If oily preservatives or sawdust accumulates on clothes, launder before reuse. Wash work clothes separately from other household clothing.

Coal tar pitch and coal tar pitch emulsion are effective sealers for creosote-treated wood-block flooring. Urethane, epoxy, and shellac are acceptable sealers for all creosote-treated wood.

Creosote treated wood can be specified with assurance of safety when used in accordance with EPA and industry approved guidelines

Pressure treating wood with creosote – an EPA registered preservative

Consumer Information Sheet

The recommendations on the Consumer Information Sheet are intended to reflect common sense and good industrial and personal hygiene practices that are applicable to treated or untreated wood.

- Care should be exercised to avoid inhaling sawdust; the fine dust particles generated in sawing wood are air pollutants and could cause nose and throat irritation.
- Care should also be exercised to avoid getting dust or wood chips in your eyes (i.e. wear goggles or safety glasses). Eyes are extremely sensitive and any type of foreign matter can cause irritation.
- Even pounding nails should be done cautiously; small flying particles of metal from the nails can cause serious eye damage.
- Wear gloves to help avoid splinters as well as skin irritation.
- Maintain a clean shop; do not leave sawdust or scrap wood lying around as they pose fire and accident hazards.
- Again, follow good personal hygiene practices. Hands should be washed after handling any type of wood or after doing any type of construction work.
- Dirty work clothes should be washed separately from other laundry.

After thorough research and analysis, the use of pressure treated wood—which protects against insects, microorganisms, marine borers, and decay— is recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Creosote treated wood can be specified with assurance of safety when used in accordance with EPA and industry approved guidelines.

For further information contact:



TREATED WOOD PRODUCTS

Thompson Industries, Inc
4260 Arkansas Ave. South
Russellville, AR 72802-8403
(800) 643-5934 - Phone

Creosote Pressure Treated Wood