**Important information if you are buying a wood burner to install in these Rotorua suburbs**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Fairy Springs | Fenton Park | Fordlands | Glenholme | Hannahs Bay | Hemo Gorge | Hillcrest |
| Holdens Bay | Kawaha Point | Koutu | Lynmore | Mangakakahi | Matipo Heights | Ngapuna |
| Ohinemutu | Ōwhata | Owhatiura Bay | Pleasant Heights | Pohaturoa | Pomare | Pukehangi |
| Rotorua | Selwyn Heights | Springfield | Sunnybrook | Tangatarua | Utuhina | Victoria |
| Western Heights  | Whakarewarewa |  |  |  |  |  |

If you want to install a wood burner in a house in one of these Rotorua suburbs (that is **NOT** replacing an existing wood burner) then a resource consent (with offsets) and a building consent is required.

**It’s important you understand ‘offsets’ before you buy a wood burner.**

**What are offsets and why we need them?**

Rotorua has the worst wintertime air pollution in the North Island, mainly caused by smoke from home heating fires. BOP Regional Council has capped the amount of emissions (smoke from fires) within these suburbs. By installing a wood burner in a house that doesn’t currently have one, you will add additional air pollution. So we don’t exceed the capped limit, before you can install a new burner you must locate another house (within the listed suburbs) where that owner is prepared to remove their existing wood burner, which then allows you to install yours. This is called offsetting. By removing their fire they offset the emissions from your fire. Offsetting is a compulsory condition of a solid fuel burner resource consent so it’s important you find an owner who will ‘offset’ your emissions before you buy a wood burner and apply for a resource consent.

For further information please contact the Bay of Plenty Regional Council on 0800 884 880.

