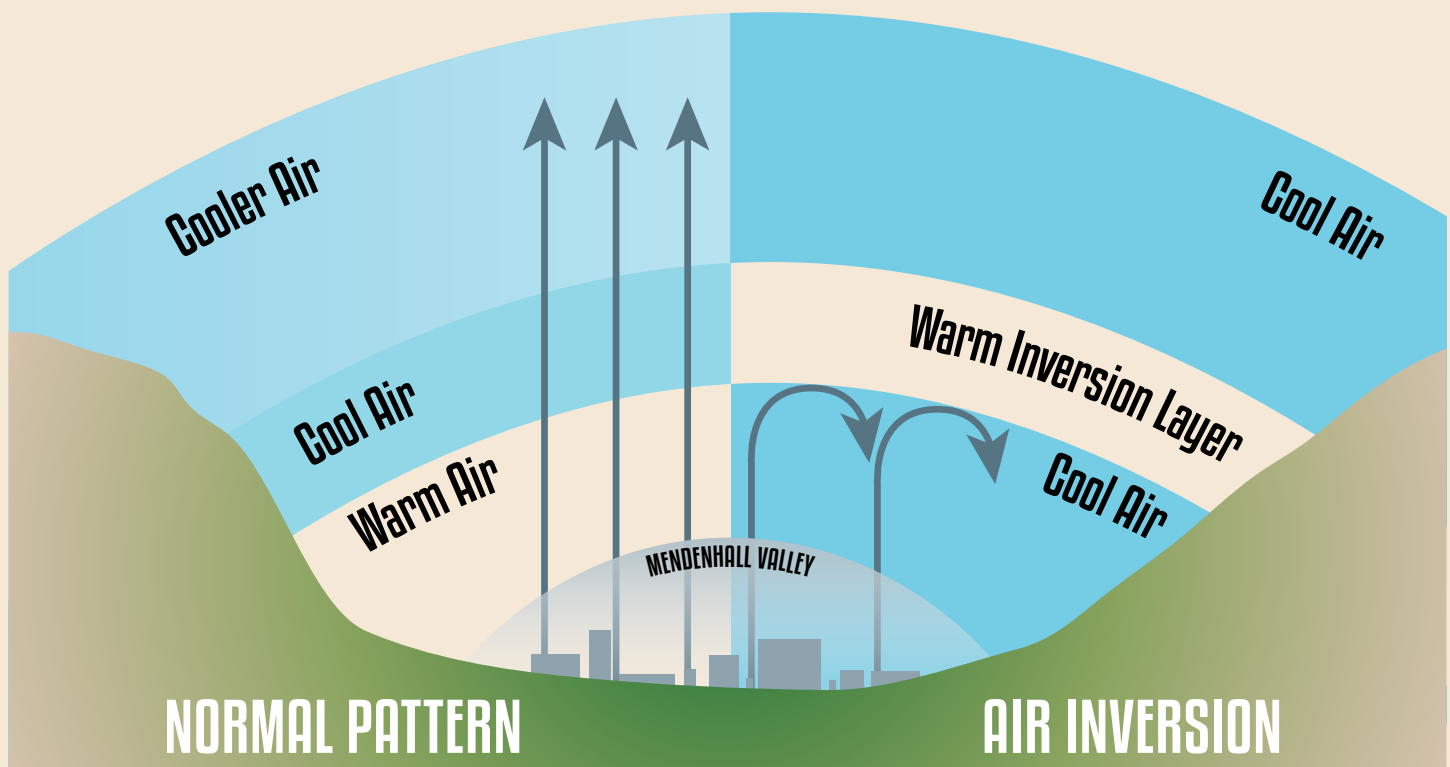


WHAT CAUSES UNHEALTHY AIR IN THE MENDENHALL VALLEY?

Answer: An air inversion. On windless, winter days, normal atmospheric conditions can become inverted: a layer of warm air prevents cold air from escaping and acts like a lid, trapping woodsmoke and other pollutants in our air. The natural "bowl" shape of the Valley intensifies this condition.



The CBJ Air Quality Monitoring Program: Oct. 1 - April 30

- CBJ staff monitor air-quality data hourly to detect fine particulates from woodsmoke in the air.
- If data shows high concentrations of these fine particulates, the CBJ will declare an air emergency, which prevents woodstoves from being used until the emergency is cancelled.
- The CBJ works in partnership with the Alaska DEC and NOAA to ensure the Valley's air remains clean and healthy.

Have questions? Call the CBJ Lands and Resources Division Office at **586-5252** or visit www.juneau.org/lands/woodsmoke.php



SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR HOW YOU CAN HELP



HOW YOU CAN

HELP KEEP THE VALLEY'S AIR CLEAN

- **BEFORE LIGHTING YOUR WOODSTOVE**, call the CBJ Woodsmoke Hotline at **586-5333** to see if an air emergency is in effect, or check the CBJ Lands and Resources webpage at www.juneau.org/lands/woodsmoke.php.
- **LOOK FOR DAYS THAT ARE SUNNY**, windless and cold: these are signs for a potential air inversion.
- **KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE NEON-YELLOW, BURN-BAN SIGNS** that will be flipped open if an air emergency is in place.
- **LISTEN TO THE RADIO** for air-emergency PSAs.
- **BURN ONLY UNTREATED WOOD**, paper and cardboard in a woodstove. Don't burn garbage, plastics, treated lumber or anything unnatural.
- **BURN DRY, WELL-SEASONED WOOD**. This reduces particulate and carbon-monoxide transmission to our air.
- **BONUS! DRY WOOD PRODUCES MORE HEAT**, which means you use less wood, which means you save money and work.
- **DON'T OVERLOAD YOUR STOVE**. Keep fires small and hot.
- **KEEP YOUR STOVE'S INTAKE/DAMPER OPEN ENOUGH TO MAINTAIN A HOT, CLEAN FIRE**. Smoldering fires can cause six times more emissions than a hot, clean fire. Did we say "hot, clean fire" enough?
- **GO OUTSIDE AND CHECK YOUR CHIMNEY FOR HEAVY SMOKE**. If it's heavy, you're likely burning damp wood or something is making your stove burn inefficiently.
- **WHICH BRINGS US TO THIS POINT:** Have your woodstove inspected to make sure it's functioning properly, safely and efficiently. Like dry wood, an efficient stove means you'll burn less wood, which saves you money and work.
- **CHECK FOR CREOSOTE BUILD-UP AND KEEP CHIMNEYS CLEAN**. It's probably best to have a professional chimney sweep (which is a real job title) come out to do the inspection of your woodstove and chimney. A properly functioning woodstove is not only better for your home heating and your wallet, it's also safer for your family.

Have questions? Call the CBJ Lands and Resources Division Office at **586-5252** or visit www.juneau.org/lands/woodsmoke.php



THANKS, MENDENHALL! LET'S DO OUR PART TO KEEP OUR VALLEY AIR CLEAN AND HEALTHY!

