

To Explore this Option Further...

To help you explore whether a biomass boiler system may be a good option for your facility, State Foresters in Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota and Utah have a Fuels for Schools Coordinator on their staff, ready to help you.

The coordinator in your state can work with you to:

- ✓ Answer any questions you have about a biomass boiler system, and the technical and financial assistance that may be available to assist with new construction or retrofitting an existing system.
- ✓ Complete an initial application. Forms for the initial or "pre-assessment" application are available at the website listed below.
- ✓ Arrange for a preliminary engineering study to determine the practicality of the program for your facility.
- ✓ Assess the feasibility of a biomass heating system and determine potential costs and benefits.
- ✓ Explore financing options for design and construction.



Visit our website at
www.fuelsforschools.org
for more information

"With the recent increase in fuel costs and the improved efficiencies in chip storage, this system will save our school district \$100,000 in heating costs this year. We are going to burn around 750 tons of wood chip product at \$24 per ton which equals \$18,000. That's good for the taxpayer, the school, the community, our local businesses, and our forests."



— Rick Scheele,
School District
Facilities Manager
and City Mayor,
Darby, MT

CONTACT INFORMATION



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FUELS FOR SCHOOLS AND BEYOND

Working together
for healthy forests
and communities

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Fuels for Schools

Fuels for Schools is an innovative program to help public schools and other public facilities reduce their heating costs while increasing forest health. This goal is achieved by promoting use of biomass heating systems—biomass boilers—that can burn waste wood from hazardous fuels projects.

STEP 1: Thin dense, unhealthy forests to reduce fire danger.



STEP 2: Grind forest debris from thinning and haul wood chips to facilities with biomass heating systems.



STEP 3: Use chips to fuel efficient burning systems that lower heating costs.



The right idea, for the right reason, at the right time...



The benefits of incorporating biomass boilers in new construction – or in retrofitted, existing heating systems include:

- ▶ Facility heating costs are reduced by 30% – 70%.
- ▶ Fire danger is decreased.
- ▶ Air quality is enhanced as waste wood is burned cleanly and efficiently.
- ▶ Decreased forest management costs.
- ▶ New jobs are created in local communities.
- ▶ Renewable domestic fuel source that increases energy independence.

In addition, we're learning from the first few systems installed:

- ▶ The initial investment costs have decreased by 30% due to improvements in building and equipment design.
- ▶ Systems can be designed to incorporate various fuel types, including wood chips or pellets.
- ▶ Installation costs can be recovered within 6–15 years, due to tremendous savings from lower fuel costs.

Successes to Date...

Biomass heating systems are proving their worth in several communities throughout the inland West.

Fully operating systems are located in:

- ▶ Darby, MT
- ▶ Thompson Falls, MT
- ▶ Council, ID
- ▶ Victor, MT
- ▶ Phillipsburg, MT
- ▶ Ely, NV

Biomass heating systems are under construction in:

- ▶ Townsend, MT
- ▶ Troy, MT
- ▶ Carson City, NV
- ▶ Dillon, MT
- ▶ Kalispell, MT
- ▶ Lewistown, MT
- ▶ Bismark, ND
- ▶ Kellogg, ID

"We had all been so drastically affected by the fires... the concept of thinning fire prone forests and burning the wastewood at the school was very exciting because it was a solution – for our community and for the forests surrounding us."

— Becki Linderman, Darby School Grants Coordinator

