

# Biomass



## How the technology works

Biomass or wood-burning systems, unlike other renewable energy sources, emit CO<sub>2</sub>. However, as the wood fuel is cultivated, it absorbs the same amount of CO<sub>2</sub> as it releases when burnt, so the process does not add to the CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere.

These systems come in two forms: the **wood pellet stove**, usually situated in a fireplace, outputs warm air. The **wood pellet boiler** fuels low-pressure hot water systems.

## Requirements

■ **Fuel:** it's important to have storage space for the fuel, appropriate access to the boiler for loading and a local fuel supplier.

■ **Flue:** the vent material must be specifically designed for wood fuel appliances, and there must be sufficient air movement for proper operation of the stove. Chimneys can be fitted with a lined flue.

■ **Smokeless zone:** wood can only be burnt on exempted appliances, under the Clean Air Act. This mainly applies to domestic appliances.

## Planning permission

If the building is listed or in an area of outstanding natural beauty, you will need to check with your Local Authority Planning Department before a flue is fitted.

## Grant funding

A 50% grant towards the cost of a biomass system is available through the LCBP Phase 2 to the public sector, including schools, hospitals, housing associations, local authorities and charitable organisations until the end of June 2009. Other schemes may be available, please contact us to find out more.

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## Key benefits

- 50% grants available
- Could be cost effective when a local fuel source is used
- Carbon neutral energy source

## Contact us

Call 0845 070 2203†

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# Case study: Raven Housing Association

## How we helped Raven Housing Association

Raven Housing is the leading registered social landlord in East Surrey, providing affordable housing for local people in collaboration with Local Authority partners.

Two flats in South Nutfield, completed in April 2008, were the first social housing to be built to Level 5 of the Code for Sustainable Homes. This included installing a biomass system designed to save approximately 4 tonnes of carbon per year and be more energy efficient.

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### KEY FACTS

Product	Mescoli Combifire2 PB28 wood pellet boiler
Grant contribution	£4,583.73
Annual kWh generated	44,100
Thermal output	25kW
Annual CO <sub>2</sub> savings	4 tonnes

## More success stories

So far we have installed 3 biomass systems as part of the LCBP Phase 2 programme, including:

■ Ingleton Wood, Richmond House, Boston

■ Islington and Camden Cemetery Services, London

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