

PENTACHLOROPHENOL PRESSURE-TREATED WOOD CONSUMER INFORMATION SHEET

CONSUMER INFORMATION *

This wood has been preserved by pressure-treatment with an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered antimicrobial pesticide containing product pentachlorophenol. Pentachlorophenol treated wood provides protection against attack by fungi and insects.

Pentachlorophenol penetrates deeply into and remains in the pressure-treated wood for a long time. Prolonged or repeated exposure to pentachlorophenol may present certain hazards. Therefore, the following precautions should be taken both when handling the treated wood and in determining where to use it.

This Consumer Information Sheet is not meant to replace the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for pentachlorophenol treated wood. The MSDS must be read and understood before handling pentachlorophenol treated Wood.

Use Site Precautions

Pentachlorophenol-treated wood commodities must only be used for those applications included in the American Wood Protection Association (AWPA) use category standards as set forth in the most current edition of the AWPA Book of Standards. For more information, contact the treater and/or the AWPA.

Logs treated with pentachlorophenol should not be used for log homes.

Pentachlorophenol-treated wood should not be used where it will be in frequent or prolonged contact with skin.

Pentachlorophenol-treated wood should not be used in residential, industrial, or commercial interiors except for laminated beams or building components that are in ground contact and are subject to decay or insect infestation and where two coats of an appropriate sealer are applied. Sealers may be applied at the installation site. Urethane, shellac, latex epoxy enamel, and varnish are acceptable sealers for pentachlorophenol-treated wood.

Do not use pentachlorophenol-treated wood for farrowing or brooding facilities.

Do not use pentachlorophenol-treated wood when the preservative may become a component of animal feed, such as structures used for storing silage food for cattle.

Do not use pentachlorophenol-treated wood where there may be direct contact with domestic animals or livestock which may crib (bite) or lick the wood.

Do not use pentachlorophenol-treated wood for cutting boards, countertops, and construction materials for beehives.

Do not use pentachlorophenol-treated wood where it may come in direct or indirect contact with public drinking water for human and domestic animals or livestock, except for uses involving incidental contact such as docks and bridges.

If pentachlorophenol-treated wood is to be coated or sealed, the wood must be clean and dry before applying the coating material. Sealers may be applied at the installation site. Urethane, shellac, latex epoxy enamel, and varnish are acceptable sealers for pentachlorophenol-treated wood

Consumer Handling Precautions for Pentachlorophenol Treated Wood

Dispose of treated wood by ordinary trash collection. Treated wood should not be burned in open fires or in 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 rated at 20 million British Thermal Units/hour or greater heat input or its equivalent 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. When power-sawing and machining, wear goggles to protect eyes from flying particles.

Avoid frequent or prolonged skin contact with pentachlorophenol-treated wood.

When handling the treated wood, wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants and use gloves rated as chemical resistant by the manufacturer.

After working with the wood, and before eating, drinking, and using 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.

* This Consumer Information Sheet is being distributed with pentachlorophenol-treated wood as part of the wood treating industry's voluntary consumer awareness program, which EPA approved in 1986. Since that time, EPA has completed a comprehensive reregistration review of pentachlorophenol, penta registrants have voluntarily eliminated some uses of pentachlorophenol, and certain American Wood Protection Association standards have changed (for example, the elimination of pentachlorophenol-treated wood block flooring). This updated Consumer Information Sheet reflects these developments