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www.creosotecouncil.org**

September 22, 2012

Re: Creosote-Treated Wood Consumer Information Sheet

Dear Creosote Treater:

In March 2011 we sent to all creosote treaters a revised model Consumer Information Sheet (CIS) for creosote-treated wood products. A copy is attached.

Although use of the CIS is voluntary, the Creosote Council encourages all treaters, as good product stewards, to distribute the CIS as an informational resource to customers. Because the purpose of the CIS is to provide nationally uniform handling-and-use information to purchasers of creosote-treated wood products, it is important that individual treaters not revise the information on the CIS. Along the same lines, it is important that individual treaters not distract readers from the use-and-handling information on the CIS by adding product promotional information to the CIS. We ask that creosote treaters follow these guidelines in connection with distribution of the CIS.

Thank you for your continued support in providing creosote-treated wood customers with important information about proper use and handling of this product.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David A. Webb". The signature is written in a cursive style with a slanted baseline.

David A. Webb  
Administrative Director, Creosote Council

# *Consumer Information Sheet*

## **Creosote Pressure-Treated Wood**

### **CONSUMER INFORMATION\***

This wood has been preserved by pressure treatment with a U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered anti-microbial pesticide product containing creosote. Creosote pressure-treated wood provides protection against attack by fungi, insects, and marine borers.

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

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

### **Use Site Precautions for Creosote-Treated Wood**

Creosote-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.

Creosote-treated wood is for exterior/outdoor uses only.

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

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\* This Consumer Information Sheet is being distributed with creosote pressure-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 creosote, creosote registrants have voluntarily eliminated all non-pressure treatment uses of creosote, and certain American Wood Protection Association standards have changed (for example, the elimination of creosote-treated wood block flooring). This updated Consumer Information Sheet reflects these developments.

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

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

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

Do not use creosote-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.

Although generally not recommended, if creosote-treated wood is to be coated or sealed, the wood must be clean and dry before applying the coating material. The only recommended coatings are a water-based pigmented emulsion and alcohol-based shellac products.

### **Consumer Handling Precautions for Creosote-Treated Wood**

Dispose of creosote-treated wood by ordinary trash collection services. Creosote-treated wood should not be burned in open fires or in stoves, fireplaces, or residential boilers. Creosote treated wood may be burned only in commercial or industrial incinerators or boilers in accordance with Federal and State regulations.

Avoid frequent or prolonged inhalation of sawdust from creosote-treated wood. When sawing and machining (includes, but not limited to drilling and adz cutting) the wood, wear a dust mask. Whenever possible these machining operations should be performed outdoors to avoid indoor accumulation of airborne sawdust from the creosote-treated wood. When power-sawing and machining, wear goggles to protect eyes from flying particles.

Avoid frequent or prolonged skin contact with creosote-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 creosote-treated wood, and before eating, drinking and use of tobacco products, wash exposed areas thoroughly.

If oily preservative or sawdust accumulates on clothes, launder before reuse. Wash work clothes separately from other household clothing.