

Safety Information for Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA) Treated Lumber

Consumer Information:

This wood has been preserved by pressure-treatment with an EPA-registered pesticide containing inorganic arsenic to protect it from insect attack and decay. Wood treated with inorganic arsenic should be used only where such protection is important.

Inorganic arsenic penetrates deeply into and remains in the pressure-treated wood for a long time. However, some chemical may migrate from treated wood into surrounding soil over time and may also be dislodged from the wood surface upon contact with skin. Exposure to inorganic arsenic may present certain hazards. Therefore, the following precautions should be taken both when handling the treated wood and in determining where to use or dispose of the treated wood.

Use-Site Precautions:

- All sawdust and construction debris should be cleaned up and disposed of after construction.
- Do not use treated wood under circumstances where the preservative may become a component of food or animal feed. Examples of such sites would be use of mulch from recycled arsenic-treated wood, cutting boards, counter tops, animal bedding, and structures or containers for storing animal feed or human food.
- Only treated wood that is visibly clean and free of surface residue should be used for patios, decks and walkways.
- Do not use treated wood for construction of those portions of beehives, which may come into contact with honey.
- Treated wood should not be used where it may come into direct or indirect contact with drinking water, except for uses involving incidental contact such as docks and bridges.

Handling Precautions:

- 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 in accordance with state and Federal regulations. CCA-treated wood can be disposed of with regular municipal trash (i.e., municipal solid waste, not yard waste) in many areas. However, state or local laws may be stricter than federal requirements. For more information, please contact the waste management agency for your state (<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/stateweb.htm>).

- Avoid frequent or prolonged inhalation of sawdust from treated wood. When sawing, sanding, and machining treated wood, wear a dust mask. Whenever possible, these operations should be performed outdoors to avoid indoor accumulations or airborne sawdust from treated wood.
- When power-sawing and machining, wear goggles to protect eyes from flying particles.
- Wear gloves when working with the wood. After working with the wood, and before eating, drinking, toileting, and use of tobacco products, wash exposed areas thoroughly.
- Because preservatives or sawdust may accumulate on clothes, they should be laundered before reuse. Wash work clothes separately from other household clothing.

CAUTION!

WOOD DUST (TREATED OR UNTREATED) MAY CAUSE RESPIRATORY, EYE AND SKIN IRRITATION. SOME WOOD SPECIES MAY CAUSE DERMATITIS AND/OR ALLERGIC RESPIRATORY EFFECTS. THE INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER (IARC) HAS CLASSIFIED UNTREATED HARDWOOD OR HARDWOOD/SOFTWOOD MIXTURES OF WOOD DUST AS A HUMAN CARCINOGEN. NTP HAS CLASSIFIED ALL UNTREATED WOOD DUST AS A CARCINOGEN.

- Avoid wood dust contact with ignition source.
- Handling treated or untreated wood may result in skin exposure to splinters.
- When sawing or cutting treated or untreated wood, wear a NIOSH approved N95, N99 or P100 dust mask.
- DO NOT BURN TREATED WOOD

FIRST AID: If wood dust is inhaled, remove to fresh air. In case of eye and/or skin contact, flush with water. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.

For additional information, call the phone number below and Customer Service or a Technical Services Manager will send you a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).

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