

# OPERATION

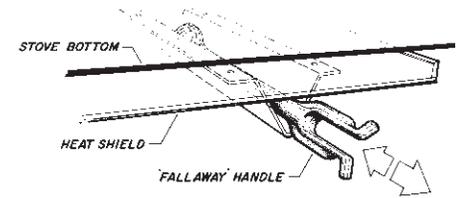
## Setting Up Your Stove

Your Fireview Soapstone Stove has been shipped fully assembled except for three parts: 1) the bottom heat shield, 2) the coiled spring handle for the top lid, and 3) the knob for the catalytic bypass damper.

### Attaching the Bottom Heat Shield

Each Fireview stove has a heat shield which must be installed **under** the stove. This shield will prevent temperatures under the stove from exceeding 90° F. This does not change the necessity for a solid masonry hearth, or an approved, fire-rated stove pad. This shield is an integral part of the stove and must be installed **before** the first firing. Here are directions for attaching the bottom heat shield:

- 1) Attach the “V-Shaped” pocket to the bottom of the heat shield. Hardware is included with the manual and the 4 holes are pre-drilled. This pocket serves as storage for the Fall-Away Handle.
- 2) Slide the heat shield under the stove and line it up as indicated at right. There are 4 bolts which attach the legs to the stove. Lift the heat shield so that the ends of these bolts go through the holes in each corner of the shield.
- 3) Attach the nuts and turn 2-3 revolutions - just enough to support the weight of the shield. There should be about 1” between the bottom of the stove and the top of the shield.

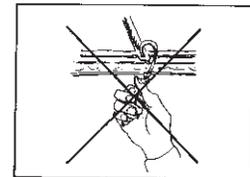
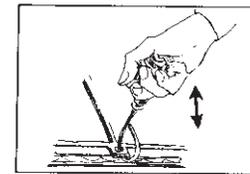


The bottom heat shield is illustrated above. The “V-Pocket” is installed on the bottom of the shield, on the back of the stove just behind the side loading door.

### Attaching the Coiled Spring Handle

Widen the end of the loop in the coiled spring handle, and slide the end of the loop down through the hole at the front of the top casting. To eliminate the possibility of the handle coming off while raising or lowering the lid, the end of the coiled spring handle should be squeezed shut after it is attached to the lid. Wrap a soft cloth around the handle to protect the plated finish, and squeeze the handle shut with a pair of pliers.

**NOTE:** When you raise or lower the lid, be sure the coiled spring handle is above the lid; don't use the handle to push the lid up or lower it down (see illustration).



Lift the top lid by pulling up on the coil spring handle. Do not push the lid up using the handle (the handle might slip off the top lid).

### Attaching the Bypass Damper

The Fireview Bypass Damper is pre-installed. Attach the “press-on” black plastic knob on the end of the damper rod at the back of the stove using a pushing, twisting motion; or gently hammer the knob onto the rod with a soft mallet.

## Seasoning Your Stove

Both soapstone and cast iron need to be seasoned. The seasoning can be accomplished through a series of small to moderate fires. Your Woodstock Soapstone Stove is an easy stove to season, because even a small fire will provide hours of radiant heat once the stove is warm. **There are two things you will notice during the first fire:**

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**First, there will be a hot, acrid smell as the stove heats up.** This smell is a result of the paint on the cast iron curing. You will want to have your first fire on a day when you can open the windows in the house to provide adequate ventilation. Fortunately, the odor is non-toxic and will only be present for the first few fires. Two or three fires that last 3 hours or more should suffice to completely cure the stove.

**Second, there will be some condensation on the glass.** This condensation is a result of moisture being driven out of the furnace cement in the stove, and condensing on the inner surface of the glass. It takes a couple of small fires to season the stove and remove this excess moisture, so wait until after the second or third fire before cleaning any condensation film off the glass.

After the first few fires, the texture and grain of the stone may become slightly more pronounced, and the color may deepen a shade.

## Starting a Fire

Before you start a fire in a Fireview, open the catalytic bypass damper by pushing the handle with the black knob all the way down and push the draft control lever next to the side door all the way down, to open the draft damper all the way. Both levers will be pointing down.

### **THIS IS IMPORTANT: Check the Draft Before You Light The Stove:**

Before you light your stove, it is extremely important to check the draft. If you experience a down draft (cool air blowing down the chimney), you will need to correct this before you light the stove. Otherwise, you might get smoke in the house.

To check the draft, light a match in front of the flue outlet of your stove. If the flame is drawn toward the outlet and chimney, then you have adequate draft to light your stove. If the flame doesn't move or is drawn toward you, you do not have enough draft and need to correct this situation before starting a fire.

You can correct inadequate draft by opening a door or window in the room where the stove is installed. Wait a minute or two, then light a match again in front of the flue outlet. The flame should be pulled into the flue opening. If this doesn't work, light rolled up newspaper and hold it in front of the flue outlet. This should warm the chimney enough to establish proper draft. Now you are on your way to starting a fire.

## Lighting the Fire

- 1) Put a layer of crumpled newspaper on the bottom of fire box. Set the kindling (very small pieces of wood, sticks, or bark) on the newspaper. Crisscross it a bit so there is air space between the pieces. Other than the newspaper used for startup, burn ONLY wood or wood bark. Avoid processed firestarter logs or gels, lighter fluid, or any non-wood product.
- 2) Now light the newspaper. Once it catches, you can leave the door open a crack for a few minutes to promote air flow.
- 3) Add wood after the kindling fully ignites. Start with a couple of smaller pieces and when they have ignited, place bigger logs on top. Assuming the wood is dry, the fire should spread through the load of wood. After the kindling has been



*Always perform the "Match Test" before lighting your stove. If you light a match and hold it in front of the flue exit, the flame will be pulled into the flue collar if there is enough draft to light the stove.*

burned enough for some coals to accumulate, reopen the side loading door and add larger pieces of split firewood, placing them on the fire so that air can freely circulate around them. We recommend well-seasoned wood, 16" in length, split into small and medium pieces. After 10 minutes or so, close the draft damper lever about half way, so it is set between #2 - #3, while you are waiting for the stovetop thermometer to reach 250°F.

## Engaging the Combustor

The catalytic combustor will start to burn the gases and particles in the smoke when the temperature of the smoke reaches 500°F. Each stove comes with a surface thermometer. The temperature on top of the stove is approximately 1/2 the the temperature inside the stove - so when the thermometer reads 250°F it is time to engage the catalytic combustor. This can take 20-40 minutes depending on the temperature of the stove at start-up. Do not try to engage the combustor too soon, or it will not ignite.

Engage the combustor by lifting the combustor bypass handle (with the black knob) until it clicks into the upward position. Next adjust the damper lever as needed. (Generally, once the combustor is engaged, the damper lever can be set around 1 or maybe a little above, depending on the amount of heat you would like.) You should see the bright yellow flames slow down and become more orange in color.

Make fine adjustments to your damper (moving it closer to 0 in 1/8 to 1/4 inch increments) until you achieve this slower moving, darker flame. Closing the air damper to 0 will cause smoldering which can smoke up your stove's window and produce creosote.

## Reloading & Overnight Burning

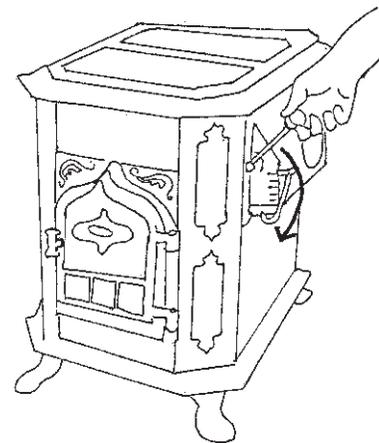
Anytime you open the loading door to add more wood to the firebox you must first position both the bypass handle and damper lever down before you open the door. This will allow good draft to be established and prevent smoke from leaking out of the door.

After adding your wood, allow the bypass handle to remain in the down position for 10-15 minutes while the new wood begins to burn. This will drive out any moisture in the wood and allow the firebox temperature to return to the catalytic range needed for the combustor to operate properly.

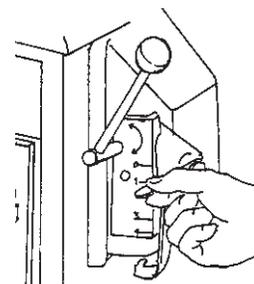
For an overnight or all day burn, feed the stove until the stove top thermometer reaches 250°F. After filling the firebox to capacity, leave the bypass handle down for about 10-15 minutes, until all the wood is burning. Then put the bypass handle up and set the damper lever to around 1. At the end of 8-12 hours (depending on type of wood) you will have hot coals and ashes remaining in the fire box. To reload the stove, position both levers down, stir the coals, add more kindling and small pieces of wood and repeat the process.

**The stove should never be burned with the draft damper completely open except when kindling a fire or reloading the stove.** Only at these times should the damper be opened completely. It should be "damped down" or partially closed as soon as the fire has been kindled, or if the stove is being reloaded, as soon as the fire has been re-established.

**Never Build a Roaring Fire in a Cold Stove!** It takes at least 45 minutes to fully heat up the soapstone mass of the Fireview Stove. Any attempt to hurry this process and



*The combustor bypass handle is illustrated above.*



*The amount of combustion air is controlled by the sliding damper, illustrated above. Push the damper down for more air, slide it up to damp the fire down.*

*The handle with the knob is the combustor bypass handle. When it is down, the combustor is bypassed; when it is up (above) the combustor is engaged.*

**When starting your stove, push both handles down!**

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generate extremely high heat quickly could result in damage to the cast-iron or to the soapstone. Your patience will be rewarded with hours of 'stored' warmth.

## The Surface Thermometer

Place the thermometer on top of the stove. Although it is magnetic, you'll learn more about the operation of the stove and the catalyst if you place the thermometer directly on the soapstone. Temperatures below the top lid, in the catalytic combustor chamber, are approximately twice the temperatures indicated on the surface thermometer.

The thermometer is not a precise instrument – it will not tell you the exact temperature inside the firebox and it will not register changes in temperature instantly due to the heat retention of soapstone. We supply the thermometer to give you some idea of what is going on inside the stove, and to provide a guide for operation.

<u>READING</u>	<u>OPERATION</u>
over 250°.....	OK to engage the combustor
400-600° .....	Normal operating temperature
600-700°.....	High burn range
over 700°.....	DO NOT burn in this range

### Overfiring:

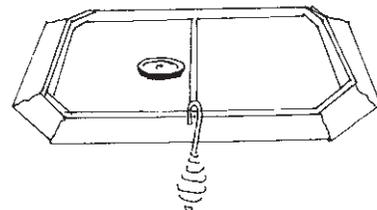
The cast iron parts in your Woodstock Soapstone stove are of the finest quality. Our cast iron parts have been made in the same foundry since the mid 1980's and the foundry itself has been in business for over one hundred years. Each cast iron part is inspected by our stove builders before it becomes part of a stove. We feel very confident about the quality of the cast iron in your stove. However, cast iron is not indestructible. Experts have shown that cast iron begins to oxidize (reddish or whitish discoloration) at 1400° F. Sustained temperatures in this range lead to cast iron warping, becoming brittle, and eventually deteriorating completely. Burning a stove frequently at these excessive temperatures is known as overfiring.

## Daily Use

Your Fireview is well-suited for continuous firing on a 24 hour/day basis. It will burn 10-12 hours on one load of wood, and will provide a steady, even heat for hours after the fire dies down. When the temperature on top of the stove drops below 250° during an all-night burn, it is not necessary to disengage the combustor. You need only to disengage the catalytic combustor when you kindle a fire, or reload the stove. Once the catalyst is ignited, it will continue to burn as long as smoke is passing through the combustor, even if the surface temperature on top of the stove drops below 250°F.

## Loading

Open the draft damper all the way for a few moments to exhaust smoke from the firebox into the chimney and then bypass the combustor. Each time the stove is loaded, open draft control and bypass the combustor for 10 to 15 minutes, or until the fire has been re-established. This procedure will help get the fire going, and reduce the possibility of creosote build-up in the stovepipe or chimney. When the fire has been re-



*Put the surface thermometer on top of the stove. Remember that the surface thermometer is just measuring catalytic activity. At the end of a burning cycle the surface temperature may go down, because there is less smoke - just hot coals. The hot coals in the stove will still be producing lots of heat.*

### **DO NOT OVERFIRE!**

Attempts to achieve heat output rates that exceed stove design specifications can result in permanent damage to the stove and to the catalytic combustor.

established, reengage the combustor and readjust the air damper by partially closing it.

## The Top Lid

Do not open the top lid on a Fireview while the stove is in use. You cannot load wood from the top. The lid opens to allow easy access to the catalytic combustor for cleaning or maintenance purposes. The lid will stay open for maintenance by leaning it back slightly on two unique “rest-backs”, or it can be removed by lifting it out of the rest-backs.

**Note:** The top lid weighs about **40 pounds**. To avoid hurt fingers, or broken top stones, make sure you have a firm grasp on the coiled spring handle before raising or lowering the lid.

## The Fall-Away Handle

The metal “fall-away” handle, which comes with your stove, can be used to operate any of the three controls on the stove: **1)** The side door latch, **2)** The draft damper control, and **3)** The combustor bypass handle.

The FORK of the handle should be used to turn the latch, to push the door closed, or open and close the damper.

The LEG should be used to pull the door open, or to move the combustor bypass into position.

The Fall Away Handle conforms to U.L. requirements and is made so that if you let go of it, it will “fall-away” from the stove and not become too hot to handle.

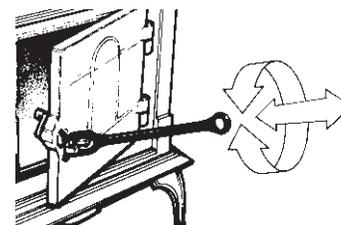
## Cooking

Soapstone griddles have been popular in New England for years. The soapstone distributes heat evenly for long simmering, and the polished surface is a natural no-stick surface. We do not recommend cooking directly on the stove top, as the surface will discolor. If the soapstone does discolor, it can be easily restored by sanding lightly with .0000 steel wool. The soapstone top of your stove provides a good cooking surface for soups and stews, or meals cooked in a Dutch oven. The even temperatures are perfect for long simmering.

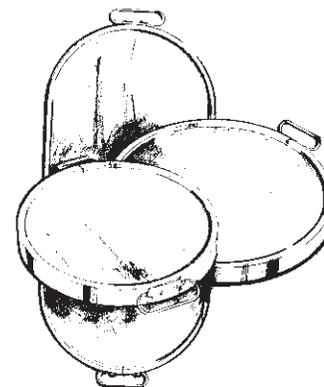
## Firewood

Your Woodstock Soapstone Stove is designed to burn seasoned, natural hardwood only. Higher efficiencies and lower emissions generally result when burning air-dried seasoned hardwoods, as compared to softwoods or green, freshly cut hardwoods.

The moisture content of some trees may range as high as 50% – i.e. there is as much moisture in the tree as there is wood. After wood has been stored for a year, the moisture content will usually range from 15-25%. Splitting wood before it is stored can reduce drying time, resulting in more even burning and lessening the danger of water vapor condensation and creosote formation. It is safer and more efficient to burn dry or seasoned hardwood than green or wet wood that smolders.



*The fall-away handle may be used to operate the controls on your stove when they are too hot to handle safely.*



*A variety of soapstone griddles with copper banded rims are available for cooking on top of your stove.*

### DO NOT BURN

- Treated Wood
- Coal
- Garbage
- Cardboard
- Solvents
- Colored Paper
- Trash
- Plastic

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Burning wet wood wastes energy because the moisture in the wood must be evaporated before it will burn and evaporating this moisture takes energy. The wetter the wood, the greater the amount of energy required for this evaporation. Dry wood makes kindling a fire easier and gives off more heat.

DO NOT BURN treated wood, coal, garbage, cardboard, solvents, colored paper, or trash in your Woodstock Soapstone Stove. Coal and artificial logs burn much hotter than wood and could cause damage through thermal stress to the cast iron panels or the soapstone panels. Burning treated wood, garbage, solvents, colored paper or trash may result in the release of toxic fumes and may poison or render the catalytic combustor ineffective.

Burning cardboard, loose paper, and trash will add significantly to ash and soot build-up, and it will not produce much heat. Fly ash from improper fuel can also coat or plug the combustor, causing smoke spillage into the room.

Under normal operating conditions, the Woodstock Soapstone Stove is designed to last for generations. It is not, however, designed for continuous over-firing, or firing with coal, artificial logs or trash.

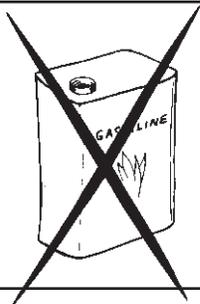
In order to help prevent overfiring the stove, we have provided a surface thermometer with each stove. When the thermometer is placed on top of the stove, the surface temperature should never exceed 700 degrees F.



*Wood can be stored and stacked in a variety of structures both simple and complex. The key to success is to keep the wood dry, exposed to as much sunlight as possible, and to stack it in a way which allows air to circulate freely around it.*

## CAUTION

Never use gasoline-type lantern fuel, kerosene, charcoal lighter fluid or similar liquids to start or 'freshen up' a fire in this stove. Keep all such liquids well away from the stove while it is in use.



## CAUTION

Never use lighter fluid or gasoline to light or rekindle a fire.