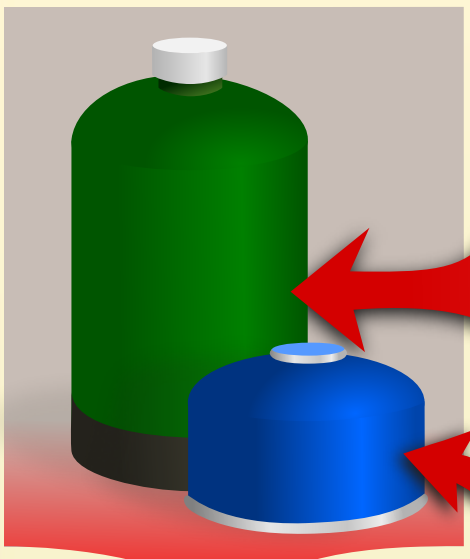
DISPOSABLE GAS CANISTERS OR WOOD ?

Are disposable gas canisters a viable low-impact alternative to wood stoves or campfires?

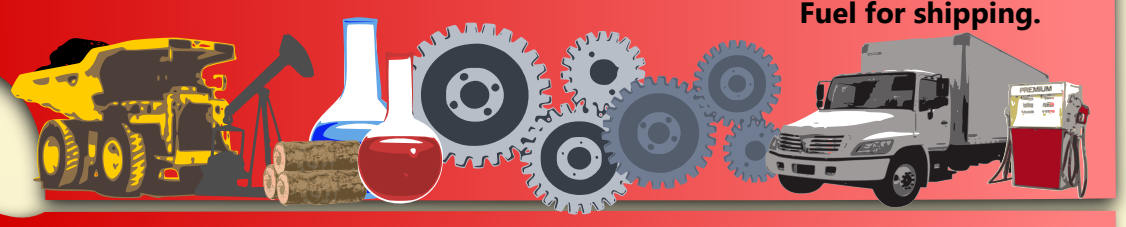
DISPOSABLE GAS CANISTERS



EXTRACTION
Mining ore for steel.
Drilling for gas.
Extracting chemicals paint, plastics, inks.
Wood for for labels

MANUFACTURING
Making steel.
Producing cylinder.
Refining gas.
Produce and apply paint, plastics, label.

DELIVERY
Shipping materials for assembly.
Shipping product materials (paper, plastics, inks)
Fuel for shipping.



EMBODIED ENERGY Electricity, water, fossil fuels and materials required for extraction, manufacturing and delivery.

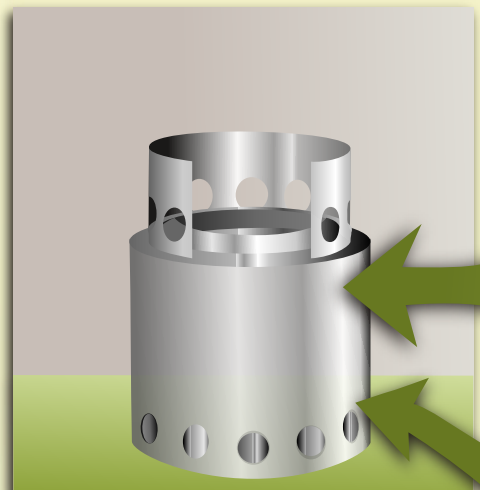
ONE TIME USE

Once used canisters must be disposed of as hazardous waste.
(No manufacturer recommends refilling and recycling is not widely available*)

CARBON FOOTPRINT
One use canister requires significant resources and creates hazardous waste, Burns fossil fuel.

* Federal law forbids transportation of this size of cylinder (type 39 DOT cylinder) if it has been refilled, therefore refilling is not practical or recommended. In 2009 one manufacturer a included venting key with canisters to aid recycling. Unfortunately the program was not accepted by any recycling agencies and discontinued.

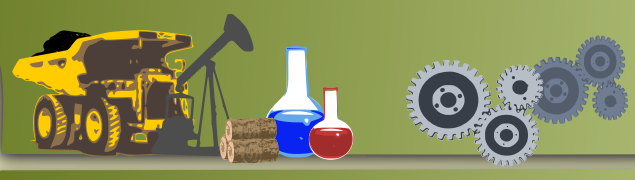
WOOD STOVES



EXTRACTION
Mining ore for steel.
Extracting chemicals paint, plastics, inks.
Wood for for labels, shipping boxes, etc.

MANUFACTURING
Making steel.
Producing stove.

DELIVERY
Shipping materials for assembly.
Shipping product materials (paper, plastics, inks)
Fuel for shipping.



EMBODIED ENERGY Electricity, water, fossil fuels and materials required for extraction, manufacturing and delivery.

LIFETIME USE

Can be used for years. If it becomes unusable the materials can be readily recycled.

CARBON FOOTPRINT
Production of the stove requires resources but has a much longer useful life.
Wood is also a carbon neutral fuel source.

CAMPFIRES

EXTRACTION None*

MANUFACTURING None*

DELIVERY None*

EMBODIED ENERGY Sunlight and and the naturally occurring elements of photosynthesis.

* Not including the source of ignition (Matches, lighters, etc.)

LIFETIME USE

Although campfires emit greenhouse gases the fuel source renders them carbon-neutral.

CARBON FOOTPRINT
More fuel required than a wood stove. Over many campfires the impact may be greater than using a wood stove

	GAS CANISTERS	WOOD STOVES	CAMPFIRES
PRO	- Convenient, easily lit. - Alternative where fires are not allowed. - Lightweight.	- Lasting product uses resources more sustainably. - Equal to canister stoves in weight when fuel is factored in. - Efficient use of fuel.	- No carry weight. - Provides warmth, cheer and light.
CON	- Heavy use of resources. - Burns fossil fuel. - Creates hazardous waste. - Cannot be recycled.	- Less convenient than gas. - Problematic in wet weather. - Smoke and soot.	- Less convenient than gas. - Problematic in wet weather. - Smoke and soot. - Heavier site impact - Less efficient use of fuel.

Best sustainable choice for most camping situations