



SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

BEFORE YOU BUILD

HANDLING AND USING TREATED LUMBER

Pressure-treated wood contains toxic preservatives. Therefore, precautions should be taken in its handling, working with, and disposal. Many of these commonsense safety precautions also apply to untreated wood and other building materials.

SITE PRECAUTIONS

- After construction, clean up and dispose of all sawdust and other debris.
- Do not use pressure-treated wood where it may contact food or animal feed. Examples include mulch from recycled treated wood, cutting boards, counter tops, animal bedding, and structures or containers for storing animal feed or human food. In raised beds, place a heavy polyethylene liner between treated wood and soil.
- Only use pressure-treated wood that is visibly clean and free of surface residue where contact is likely.
- Pressure-treated wood should not be used where it may directly or indirectly contact drinking water, excluding incidental contact such as docks or bridges.
- Do not use pressure-treated wood for construction of portions of beehives which may come into contact with honey.



CHECK OUT OUR BUILDING TIPS

[CULPEPERWOOD.COM/BUILDING-TIPS](https://culpeperwood.com/building-tips)

HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

- Dispose of pressure-treated wood through ordinary trash collection.
- Never burn pressure-treated wood in open fires or stoves, fireplaces, or residential boilers as toxins may be released into the air and be deposited as ash.
- Dispose of pressure-treated wood from commercial or industrial use (e.g., construction sites) in compliance with local landfill rules, or burn in commercial or industrial incinerators or boilers in accordance with state and federal regulations.
- Avoid frequent or prolonged inhalation of sawdust from all forms of wood. Wear a dust mask when sawing, sanding, and machining wood. When possible, work outdoors to avoid indoor accumulations and airborne sawdust.
- Wear eye protection when power sawing and machining.
- Wear gloves when working with wood.
- Use proper techniques when lifting.
- After working with wood – before eating, drinking, toileting, using tobacco, etc. – wash exposed areas thoroughly.
- Launder work clothing separately from other laundry to remove wood preservatives.