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Material Safety Data Sheet

TRADE NAME Maine Woods Pellet
SYNONYMS Wood Pellets, Fuel Pellets, Pellet Litter
INGREDIENTS 100% Wood Fiber CAS. No. 9004-34-6

NFPA HAZARD LABEL

Health	Flammability	Reactivity	Special Notice
1	1	0	None

DESCRIPTION

Wood particles extruded into cylindrical pellets for use in a wood pellet burning appliances or bedding pellets used for animal bedding and litter.

PHYSICAL DATA

Boiling Point.....	Not Applicable
Specific Gravity.....	1.24
Bulk Density.....	40 lbs/ft ³ (640Kg/m ³)
Vapor Density.....	Not Applicable
Percent Volatiles by Volume.....	Not Applicable
Melting Point.....	Not Applicable
Vapor Pressure.....	Not Applicable
Solubility in H ₂ O (% by weight).....	Insoluble. Water will expand and breakdown the pellets into wood particles.
Evaporation Rate (Butyl Acetate = 1).....	Not Applicable
pH.....	Not Applicable
Appearance and Odor.....	Light to dark colored cylinders 3/16" to 3/8" in diameter. Approximately 1/4" to 1/2" long with some crumbled pellets and wood dust, Slight wood odor.

FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA

Flash Point.....	Not Applicable
Auto-ignition Temperature.....	Variable (typically 400-500° F)
Explosive Limits in Air.....	40 grams/M ³ (LEL) for wood dust
Extinguishing Media.....	Water, Sand, Carbon Dioxide, Nitrogen
Special Fire Fighting Procedures.....	Use water to wet down dust to reduce the likelihood of ignition or dispersion of dust into the air. Remove burned or wet dust to open area after fire is extinguished. Use inert gases to smother fires in enclosed spaces.
Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazard.....	Wood dust is a strong to severe explosion hazard if a dust "cloud" contacts an ignition source. Wood heated with limited oxygen will produce CO, CO ₂ and hydrocarbons which can explode if oxygen is introduced.

HEALTH EFFECTS INFORMATION

Exposure Limit.....

¹See footnote below concerning
OSHA PELs for wood dust

Skin and Eye Contact.....

Ingestion.....

Skin Absorption.....

Chronic Effects.....

ACGIH TLV®: TWA-5.0 mg/m³;
STEL (15 min.) – 10 mg/m³ (softwood)
TWA – 1.0 mg/m³ (certain hardwoods
such as beech or oak)
OSHA PEL: TWA – 15.0 mg/m³ (total dust);
5.0 mg/m³ (respirable fraction)
Western red cedar: TWA – 2.5 mg/m³
Wood dust can cause eye irritation. Various
species of wood dust can elicit allergic
contact dermatitis in sensitized individuals.
Do not ingest. Pellets expand in volume
when wet. No known harmful effects. If
there is any discomfort, consult a
physician.
Not known to occur
Wood dust, depending on species,
may cause dermatitis on
prolonged, repetitive contact; may
cause respiratory sensitization
and/or irritation. IARC classifies
wood dust as a carcinogen to
humans (Group 1). This
classification is based primarily
on IARC's evaluation of
increased risk in the occurrence
of adenocarcinomas of the nasal
cavities and paranasal sinuses
associated with exposure
to wood dust. IARC did not find
sufficient evidence to associate
cancers of the oropharynx, hypopharynx,
lung, lymphatic and hematopoietic
systems, stomach, colon or
rectum with exposure to wood
dust.

REACTIVITY DATA

Conditions Contributing to Instability.....

Incompatibility.....

Hazardous Decomposition Products.....

Conditions Contributing to Polymerization.....

Stable under normal conditions.
Avoid contact with oxidizing agents
and drying oils. Avoid open flame.
Product may ignite at temperatures in
excess of 400° F.
Thermal-oxidative degradation of
wood produces irritating and toxic
fumes and gases, including carbon
monoxide, carbon dioxide, terpenes
and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.
Not Applicable

¹In AFL-CIO v. OSHA 965 F. 2d 962 (11th Cir. 1992) the court overturned OSHA's 1989 Air Contaminants Rule, including the specific PELs for wood dust that OSHA had established at that time THE 1989 PELS WERE: TWA – 5.0 mg/m³; STEL (15 MIN.) – 10.0 mg/m³ (ALL SOFT AND HARD WOODS EXCEPT WESTERN RED CEDAR); WESTERN RED CEDAR: TWA – 2.5 mg/m³.
Wood dust is now officially regulated as an organic dust under the Particulates Not Otherwise Regulated (PNOR) or Inert or Nuisance Dust categories at PELs noted under Health Effects information section of the MSDS. However, A NUMBER OF STATES HAVE INCORPORATED PROVISIONS OF THE 1989 STANDARD IN THEIR STATE PLANS. ADDITIONALLY, OSHA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT IT MAY CITE COMPANIES UNDER THE OSH ACT GENERAL DUTY CLAUSE UNDER APPROPRIATE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE 1989 PELs.

PRECAUTIONS AND SAFE HANDLING

- Avoid Eye Contact.
- Avoid Repeated or Prolonged Contact with Skin. Careful bathing and clean clothes are indicated after exposure.
- Avoid Prolonged or Repeated Breathing of Wood Dust in Air.
- Avoid Contact with Oxidizing Agents and Drying Oils.
- Avoid Open Flame.
- Do Not Ingest.

GENERALLY APPLICABLE CONTROL MEASURES

Ventilation: Provide adequate general and local exhaust ventilation to maintain healthful working conditions.

Wear goggles or safety glasses. Other protective equipment such as gloves and approved dust respirators may be needed depending upon dust conditions.

EMERGENCY AND FIRST AID PROCEDURES

Eyes	Flush with water to remove dust particles. If irritation persists, get medical attention.
Skin	If a rash or persistent irritation or dermatitis occurs, get medical advice before returning to work where wood dust is present.
Inhalation.....	Remove to fresh air. If persistent irritation, severe coughing, breathing difficulties occur, get medical advice before returning to work where wood dust is present.
Ingestion.....	Do not ingest. Wood Pellets will expand when wet. If there is any discomfort, consult a physician.

SPILL/LEAK CLEAN UP PROCEDURES

Sweep or vacuum spills for recovery or disposal; avoiding creating dust conditions. Provide good ventilation where dust conditions may occur. Place recovered wood dust in a container for disposal. Wood Pellets on the floor present a slip and fall hazard.

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