

HOME SAFETY

A New Generation of Treated Wood

(NAPSA)—During the last 70 years, most of the wood used in backyard projects was treated with Chromated Copper Arsenate, or CCA, for protection against termites and decay. This popular preservative has been used for decks, fences, gazebos, storage sheds, even the framing of our homes and offices.

In the past two years, however, public concerns about possible exposure to arsenic have led to the introduction of alternative wood preservatives. The manufacturers of the “new generation” preservatives have agreed with the EPA to voluntarily withdraw CCA from most residential treated lumber uses by the end of 2003. Some think that CCA is being banned and that treated wood will no longer be available. Actually, CCA will still be permitted for most industrial and commercial applications such as poles, piling, and highway sign posts. The EPA does not believe there is any reason to remove or replace existing CCA-treated structures, including backyard decks or playground equipment.

Home improvement centers and lumber yards across the nation are already stocking wood treated with the alternative preservatives, using names like ACQ and Copper Azole. These waterborne preservatives look and perform similarly to CCA and



Whether it's a deck, fence, or storage shed, building with treated Southern Pine can provide decades of backyard leisure.

have many of the same benefits that consumers have come to appreciate. Today, ACQ, Copper Azole, and similar treatments are growing in popularity and becoming more readily available.

Regardless of the preservative treatment used, Southern Pine remains the species of choice for treated wood applications. Its unique ability to accept treatment and unsurpassed strength make Southern Pine a great choice for uses where protection from moisture, decay, termite attack, or exposure to the elements is a priority.

The Southern Pine Council (SPC) offers a wide variety of publications to help you properly use treated lumber. For more information, contact SPC at Box 641700, Kenner, LA 70064 or visit www.southernpine.com.