

Here in the Delaware valley, we have very simple choices. Most purveyors are selling only hardwood. The hardwood species sold all have high BTU content. Mostly we enjoy oak, hickory, locust, and sweet gum.

When cutting our own wood, we can expand the selection to many more species that have high BTU content.

Here is a chart of various species (not all of which are in our area, i.e., Balsa). Remember that all species have about 8400 BTUs per pound. Of course, softwoods are less dense, so they take up more space. Thus, a pound of Osage Orange is much more compact than Balsa. Likewise, there are fewer pieces of pine in a cord than oak.

Arranged by BTU

Name	Lbs/Cord	MBTU/Cord
Osage Orange (Hedge)	4,845	30
Hop Hornbeam (Ironwood)	4,250	26.4
Persimmon, American	4,165	25.8
Hickory, Shagbark	4,080	25.3
Dogwood, Pacific	3,995	24.8
Holly, American	3,995	24.8
Birch, Black	3,910	24.2
Oak, White	3,910	24.2
Madrone, Pacific (Arbutus)	3,825	23.7
Oak, Post	3,825	23.7
Locust, Honey	3,825	23.7
Hickory, Bitternut	3,825	23.7
Beech, Blue (Ironwood)	3,825	23.7
Mulberry	3,740	23.2
Locust, Black	3,740	23.2
Maple, Sugar	3,740	23.2
Beech, American	3,655	22.7
Oak, Oregon (Garry)	3,655	22.7
Oak, Bur (Mossycup)	3,655	22.7
Oak, Red	3,570	22.1
Birch, Yellow	3,570	22.1
Ash, White	3,485	21.6
Myrtle, Oregon (Pepperwood)	3,485	21.6
Apple	3,485	21.6
Ash, Green	3,400	21.1
Maple, Black	3,400	21.1
Walnut, Black	3,230	20
Maple, Red	3,230	20
Ash, Oregon	3,230	20

Birch, White (Paper)	3,230	20
Tamarack (Larch)	3,145	19.5
Birch, Gray	3,145	19.5
Hackberry	3,145	19.5
Juniper, Rocky Mtn	3,145	19.5
Cherry, Black	3,145	19.5
Coffeetree, Kentucky	3,060	19
Sorrel (Sourwood)	3,060	19
Elm, Red	3,060	19
Eucalyptus (Red Gum)	2,975	18.4
Elm, American	2,975	18.4
Sycamore, American	2,890	17.9
Maple, Big Leaf	2,890	17.9
Elm, White (Russian)	2,890	17.9
Ash, Black	2,890	17.9
Boxelder (Maple Ash)	2,890	17.9
Pine, Norway (Red)	2,890	17.9
Fir, Douglas	2,805	17.4
Maple, Silver	2,805	17.4
Pine, Pitch	2,635	16.3
Pine, Lodgepole	2,465	15.3
Hemlock	2,465	15.3
Spruce, Black	2,465	15.3
Catalpa (Catawba)	2,380	14.8
Pine, Ponderosa	2,380	14.8
Alder, Red or White	2,380	14.8
Pine, Jack (Canadian)	2,380	14.8
Spruce, Sitka	2,380	14.8
Pine, White (Idaho)	2,236	14.3
Willow	2,295	14.2
Fir, Concolor (White)	2,295	14.2
Basswood (Linden)	2,210	13.7
Aspen, American (Poplar)	2,210	13.7
Butternut (White Walnut)	2,125	13.2
Pine, White (Eastern)	2,125	13.2
Fir, Balsam	2,125	13.2
Cottonwood (Balsam Poplar)	2,040	12.6
Spruce, Engelmann	1,955	12.1
Cedar, Eastern (Redcedar)	1,955	12.1
Buckeye, Ohio	1,955	12.1

Cedar, White (Whitecedar)	1,870	11.6
Bamboo	1,615	10
Balsa	935	5.8

Arranged Alphabetically

Name	Lbs/Cord	MBTU/Cord
Alder, Red or White	2380	14.8
Apple	3485	21.6
Ash, Black	2890	17.9
Ash, Green	3400	21.1
Ash, Oregon	3230	20
Ash, White	3485	21.6
Aspen, American (Poplar)	2210	13.7
Balsa	935	5.8
Bamboo	1615	10
Basswood (Linden)	2210	13.7
Beech, American	3655	22.7
Beech, Blue (Ironwood)	3825	23.7
Birch, Black	3890	24.2
Birch, Gray	3145	19.5
Birch, Yellow	3570	22.1
Birch, White (Paper)	3230	20
Boxelder (Maple Ash)	2890	17.9
Buckeye, Ohio	1955	12.1
Butternut (White Walnut)	2125	13.2
Catalpa (Catawba)	2380	14.8
Cedar, Eastern (Redcedar)	1955	12.1
Cedar, White (Whitecedar)	1870	11.6
Cherry, Black	3145	19.5
Coffeetree, Kentucky	3060	19
Cottonwood (Balsam Poplar)	2040	12.6
Dogwood, Pacific	3995	24.8
Elm, American	2975	18.4
Elm, Red	3060	19
Elm, White (Russian)	2890	17.9
Eucalyptus (Red Gum)	2975	18.4
Fir, Balsam	2125	13.2
Fir, Concolor (White)	2295	14.2
Fir, Douglas	2805	17.4
Hackberry	3145	19.5
Hemlock	2465	15.3

Hickory, Bitternut	3825	23.7
Hickory, Shagbark	4080	25.3
Holly, American	3995	24.8
Hop Hornbeam (Ironwood)	4250	26.4
Juniper, Rocky Mtn	3145	19.5
Locust, Black	3740	23.2
Locust, Honey	3825	23.7
Madrone, Pacific (Arbutus)	3825	23.7
Maple, Big Leaf	2890	17.9
Maple, Black	3400	21.1
Maple, Red	3230	20
Maple, Sugar	3740	23.2
Maple, Silver	2805	17.4
Mulberry	3740	23.2
Myrtle, Oregon (Pepperwood)	3485	21.6
Oak, Bur (Mossycup)	3655	22.7
Oak, Oregon (Garry)	3655	22.7
Oak, Post	3825	23.7
Oak, Red	3570	22.1
Oak, White	3910	24.2
Osage Orange (Hedge)	4845	30
Persimmon, American	4165	25.8
Pine, Jack (Canadian)	2380	14.8
Pine, Lodgepole	2465	15.3
Pine, Norway (Red)	2890	17.9
Pine, Pitch	2635	16.3
Pine, Ponderosa	2380	14.8
Pine, White (Eastern)	2125	13.2
Pine, White (Idaho)	2236	14.3
Sorrel (Sourwood)	3060	19
Spruce, Engelmann	1955	12.1
Spruce, Sitka	2380	14.8
Spruce, Black	2465	15.3
Sycamore, American	2890	17.9
Tamarack (Larch)	3145	19.5
Walnut, Black	3230	20
Willow	2295	14.2