

Cathryn Hennes

ENG 301: Magazine Article Proposal

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### Families heat homes with corn and cherry pits

I propose a 2,500 word article, detailing the process we have completed in learning about alternative heating options. Questions that I would use in writing our personal experience with this process include:

- How did we find out about the alternative heating choices?
- What sources did we use to learn about alternative heating?
- Have we seen what they look like? Have we seen them in action?
- What is the process for them to work?
- How long did we take to decide which heating option to use?
- Why did we decide to replace our heating option?

Did you know that you can heat a home with hulled corn, sunflower seeds, cherry pits, and/or soy beans? There is a whole market that deals with the creation of alternative heating options, used as furnaces or stoves. Historically used in the south since the 1960's, these heating alternatives are becoming more available in the northern states. I propose to discuss the difference between the main heating options, the conventional heating options like natural gas, propane, and electric and the alternatives that include hulled corn and wood pellets. This article will show there is a 50% reduction or more in the cost of heating your home in the winter with an alternative heating option.

I propose to interview local heating repair companies, asking them about their opinions on alternative heating options. How do you feel about the trend in alternative heating options? Do you think your business will decrease if more of these options are followed? I also propose interviewing individuals who have followed the process and either installed a stove or furnace into their homes. How did you find out about these heating options? How long did the process take for you to decide on the heating option you've got now? How much a month, during the winter, do you spend on your original heating source?

I also propose interviewing companies who design and produce alternative heating products. How did you decide to produce these types of products? Did you base your design off another's product? How long does it take to produce one of these products, example, the corn feed stove? When did you start designing these products? Where would you like to see the future of your product go? Why did you start producing these products?