



# ShelterPride

Narragansett Bay Insurance



## Is Your Home Safe from Puffbacks?

### *Prevent losses by following these tips*

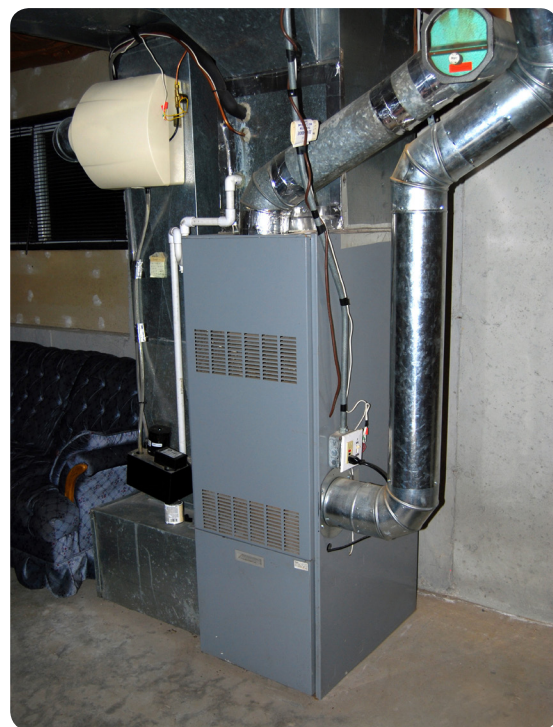
A puffback is a messy furnace malfunction that occurs when an oil burner backfires, sending soot throughout your home. It can happen all at once, covering the interior in grimy soot, or it can leak soot more gradually. Puffbacks often occur in late fall, when homeowners are turning their heating systems on for the first time.

Initially, many people mistake soot for dust and simply wipe it away. However, once cleaned this “dust” often reappears and can sometimes be accompanied by a strong oily odor. There are several steps you can take to prevent damage in your home:

- Have your oil-burning furnace professionally checked and cleaned annually.
- Keep an eye out for traces of soot in your home.
- Install a carbon monoxide (CO) monitor in your home. Puffbacks (and the soot they create) will increase the carbon monoxide levels in your home. A carbon monoxide monitor can help to detect the puffback in its early stages.

If you begin to notice soot accumulating on objects or walls within your home turn off your heating system immediately. Contact a heating professional to service your heater and restore it to proper working order. It is also a good idea to call a professional restoration company to safely and effectively remove the soot from your walls and furniture. Taking these steps is the best way to ensure optimum air quality in your home.

**For more information on how you can mitigate loss in your home, visit our website [www.nbic.com](http://www.nbic.com).**



### ShelterPride® A value added service to homeowners

Through Narragansett Bay Insurance's ShelterPride® home safety program, homeowners are able to identify and correct hazards that could cause property damage or injury to a family member. With ShelterPride®, your insureds have the right amount of insurance and all the credits they deserve.