

# FOCI Newsletter

Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative

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## Tree Check Month is NOW

In August the forest health community encourages the public to look for forest pests by promoting Tree Check Month. You can download a wide variety of handy outreach materials from USDA APHIS Asian Longhorned Beetle program's site. Remember to tag your social media posts #TreeCheck2016!

[Go to USDA APHIS Tree Check site >>](#)

[Review a portfolio of free partner resources via Don't Move Firewood >>](#)

## Comment Period Open on IPPC Int'l Movement of Wood Standards

Importing and exporting wood – including firewood - around the globe presents real risks for moving plant pests. Right now, the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) is seeking comment via USDA APHIS on their revised International Movement of Wood Standards, which seeks to improve the reduction of risk of pest movement via the creation of best practices and international cooperation. Comments are due by August 26th 2016.

[Information on Draft Standard and Comment Period >>](#)

[Learn about the IPPC in general >>](#)

## Two more days! Farm Bill Open Period is open through August 19th

Many firewood outreach initiatives around the USA are funded through the Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Program of the Farm Bill, under Section 10007. The open period for suggestions, which is roughly similar to an RFP process, is NOW!

[Learn more at the Farm Bill 10007 page >>](#)

## Register for the Continental Dialogue - will include Firewood Working Group

This newsletter is one of several Initiatives of the Continental Forest Dialogue - and the annual meeting of the Dialogue will be November 14th and 15th in Indianapolis, Indiana. The meeting of the international Firewood Working Group will be Tuesday morning- we'll be discussing partnerships, bilateral cooperative actions with Canadian outreach specialists, the outcomes of Firewood Awareness Month, and much more. Hope to see you in Indy!

[Find the meeting overview, registration links, and more >>](#)

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The featured image this month is a photo of an Asian longhorned beetle emergence hole. Did you know that there are lots of great ALB photos on the [USDA APHIS ALB Eradication Program Flickr site](#)? Go check it out!

## Infestations and Regulations

### Gypsy moths had a huge year

If you don't live in the Northeastern part of the USA, you might not realize that this year had some record breaking gypsy moth caterpillar numbers. The internet news cycle breathlessly

**FORWARD THIS TO  
A COLLEAGUE »**

**In The News**

reported on moth-delayed flights at Boston's Logan Airport, repulsive caterpillar frass raining out of the trees, and devastating levels of tree defoliation. Alongside the actual facts came rampant misconceptions, miscommunications, and unnecessary scare tactics. This fall, let's all spread some solid facts on gypsy moths and counteract the hype.

**Your Move, Gypsy Moth Free>>**

**Moth themed Don't Move Firewood resources >>**

**US Forest Service Gypsy Moth info >>**

## Don't Move Firewood Campaign

### October will be Firewood Awareness Month

The Don't Move Firewood campaign will hold a Firewood Awareness Month in October, in partnership with the Hungry Pests campaign. Do you want to be part of the planning and implementation working group? If so, [email Leigh](#) and let her know! The first planning call has been pushed into early September due to logistics.

**See an archive of annual Forest Pest Outreach events »**

### Don't Move Firewood is getting a new website

A big THANK YOU to everyone that filled in our stakeholder survey earlier this summer. The results are in- and the insights into how you all use and value our site were incredibly helpful. We've combed through all the responses and incorporated your feedback into the new plan. The new website launch is scheduled for mid November- up until then, everything will look like "business as usual." One exception is that our Resource Library has ceased functioning properly, with no good fix that we can find. We are very sorry for that inconvenience- but it does underscore the importance of developing our new modern site! Stay tuned!

**August 12 2016**

**How is a New York beetle linked to wildfires in the West?**

**August 9 2016**

**The voracious pest emerald ash borer spotted in Philly**

**August 3 2016**

**USDA calls on residents to check trees in August**

**July 28 2016**

**Stinkbugs' natural predator has arrived in the Pacific Northwest**

## Submit Your Story

This is the **Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative** newsletter, designed to share information about firewood and invasive forest pests. Do you have a story you want us to include in a future newsletter? Submit your story of 120 words or less.

**Submit Your Story**

**Newsletter PDF**

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