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FOCI Newsletter

Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative

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**DON'T MOVE
FIREWOOD.org**



October is Firewood Month!

Firewood Month is an annual event designed to encourage better firewood using habits, from the forest pest and disease pathway perspective. The month's suggested messages strive to nudge people in the direction of accepted best practices for firewood buying and/or gathering. Each year, we use four themed weeks throughout October to organize best practices based on situations and audiences, but you are encouraged to celebrate Firewood Month in whatever way works best for your outreach audience.

This first week of October we stick to general firewood information, while next week is focused on fall recreationalists- especially folks that are likely to move large amounts of firewood, like hunters, anglers, and RV owners. The Firewood Month Toolkit is available for download, and we are especially grateful to our major partner campaigns; [Hungry Pests](#) (USDA APHIS) and [PlayCleanGo](#) (NAISMA) for their valuable contributions and insights into the 2021 Toolkit.

[Visit the Firewood Month public page>>](#)
[Find the Firewood Month Toolkit and schedule>>](#)

Free AGMR Virtual Meeting coming soon!

The Virtual AGMR (Annual *Lymantria dispar* Review) meeting schedule is up, and many of the talks and topics will be relevant to firewood and forest pest professionals beyond just those that work on *Lymantria dispar*. The meeting is free and scheduled across three afternoons in the last week of October, so that you don't get too Zoom-fatigued on any given day.

[Check out the AGMR Schedule >>](#)

Status of Don't Move Firewood and *Lymantria dispar*'s name

The Don't Move Firewood outreach and education materials have included *Lymantria dispar* (formerly, gypsy moth) as a pest commonly moved via the firewood pathway since the campaign was launched in 2008. With the summer 2021 announcement of the removal of the old common name from the approved common names list held by the Entomological Society of America (ESA), we acknowledge that all our materials covering this species must be changed. Our outreach staff is working closely with the ESA to select and rapidly roll out a new and better common name. The ESA is currently estimating that a new name will be approved in January 2022, and therefore, the Don't Move Firewood campaign is creating a name change plan to update all materials at that time.

We regret that this does leave the previous offensive name in place for an additional several months- as a public outreach campaign, this is a difficult situation and it is an imperfect solution to plan to wait. Our decision to replace all relevant DMF materials comprehensively in January 2022 was made to minimize public confusion with this historical change. This statement is also available in full on the Don't Move Firewood website, for ease of sharing.

[Visit the *Lymantria dispar* name blog>>](#)

Photo of the month: The Don't Move Firewood campaign has a set of simple and popular social media ready images ready for use in Firewood Month outreach. This is a closeup view of one example of many- visit the [Resource Library](#) and click **Item Type = Firewood Month** to see them all.

Infestations and Regulations

Firewood Map Update Completed

Huge congratulations to the summer firewood analyst team at Don't Move Firewood for making it through all the states, provinces, countries, park, campground, and border agency regulations and recommendations for all of North America this summer! It has been a massive undertaking- especially because the federal domestic deregulation of emerald ash borer came many related alterations to state-led regulations. Please, take a moment to look at the summary for where you live or work, and let us know if you ever find something broken, out of date, or just plain wrong!

[View the Firewood Map >>](#)

Don't Move Firewood Campaign

Never too soon for Holiday Greenery

October is filled with outreach partnership activities, as we strive to deploy the Firewood Month Toolkit to every relevant public educational presence in North America. But that doesn't mean we aren't planning ahead! Have you ever seen our Christmas tree materials, on how important it is to buy your real Christmas trees from local or established businesses? They are remarkably useful throughout November!

[Visit the Holiday Greenery page >>](#)

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In the News

First evidence discovered of breeding spotted lanternfly population in Massachusetts
Sept 28 2021

Maine adds new restrictions to try to slow spread of emerald ash borer
Sept 7 2021

Share firewood news tips

Input from our readers is vital to the success of this newsletter — and to the mission it serves. Have you heard (or done) something that you think we and other readers should hear about? Please tell us about it!

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