FOCI Newsletter

Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative





October is Firewood Month!!

The time has come; Firewood Month is here! It's not too late to get your firewood and forest pest-related outreach out to the world! Each week of October we emphasize best practices under different firewood-related themes, tailored to relevant audiences. These themes are flexible to your needs, and all participants are encouraged to celebrate Firewood Month in whatever way works best for you. For outreach tips, NEW graphics, messaging, and helpful resources, check out the 2022 Firewood Month Action Toolkit!

Find the 2022 Firewood Month Resources here >>

Meet the Don't Move Firewood Team

In light of our favorite month (October! Firewood Month!) the Don't Move Firewood team will be conducting two presentations. Join us this Friday, October 7th during the North American Invasive Species Management Association's (NAISMA) monthly member's only First Friday talks- or register for our free public webinar on Oct. 13th to meet the Don't Move Firewood Team. We'll give a brief presentation on what we do, some of our big outreach initiatives, and how you can get involved!

NAISMA First Fridays info >>

Register NOW for Oct 13 general webinar >>

Consider One of Our Halloween Favorites - Bug Masks!

One of the most enduringly popular items that Don't Move Firewood has ever created is our series of bug masks- emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle, goldspotted oak borer, female and

male adult spongy moths (because they have very different antennae!), and walnut twig beetle. They come in English colored in, English pencil drawn, and French colored in. Download them now and have some fun with your October outreach!

View the masks here >>

Photo of the Month: A neatly stacked pile of firewood along side a chopping block. October is Firewood Month and an ideal time of year in many areas for firewood users to go camping and stock up on readily available wood for home and cabin heating. Keep the outreach coming! Photo Credit: Leigh Greenwood.

Infestations and Regulations

Storm Debris Alerts

The devastating impacts of hurricane lan continue to be felt far and wide in the Southeast US. Once the dust settles after storms like these, it's good to have a plan for debris cleanup up and know how to keep neighborhood trees healthy and resilient to future events. Moving downed limbs and trees long distances after storms can inadvertently spread treekilling insects and diseases to new areas compromising the health of other trees. Determining the best local disposal option is key to protecting standing trees. Outreach professionals should communicate that to be safe, woody debris should always be brought to a local solid waste facility (i.e., landfill), a licensed city composted facility, a registered storm debris disposal yard, or used on-site for personal firewood.

Right now, there is a hurricane-impacted area in South Carolina that is under quarantine for the Asian longhorned beetle, and authorities in the state ask that woody debris from within the quarantined area be disposed of either at the Bees Ferry Road Convenience Center or the Hollywood Convenience Center. Imported fire ant, emerald ash borer, and laurel wilt disease are some other known threats to forest health found in areas affected by the recent hurricane. Needs a quick example of relevant outreach? View our 2017 press release from Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

Don't Move Firewood Campaign

Prep for Holiday Greenery Pest Alerts

November and December will be here before you know it, and the Don't Move Firewood campaign is ready for all the "well, if firewood can be a problem, what about my Christmas trees?" questions that begin to pop up as the weather cools down. Get yourself prepared with solid answers, good graphics, and some ready-made materials on our Holiday Greenery page

FORWARD THIS TO A COLLEAGUE »

In the News

Potent impacts of the invasive Agrilus planipennis on various demographics in Winnipeg Canada September 2022 (publication)

Add Something New to Fall Activities Plan Sep 21, 2022

What to Know About the Spotted Lanternfly Invasion Sep 21, 2022 (satire)

Saskatchewan and Alberta Renew Partnership in Mountain Pine Beetle Fight September 20, 2022

DEP Urges Residents to Check Trees for Beech Leaf Disease, Which is Confirmed in 12 New Jersey Counties Sep 19, 2022

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!

Submit Your Story

Check out our Holiday Greenery Page >>

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