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FOCI Newsletter

Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative

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**DON'T MOVE
FIREWOOD.org**



Tis the Season for Proper Disposal of Christmas Trees

“Real” Christmas trees and holiday greenery can sometimes- albeit very rarely- give a free ride (from tree farm to house) to a surprising variety of insects and small animals. From spotted lanternfly to gypsy moth, tree frogs to praying mantids, anything that is simultaneously very good at camouflaging and clinging could conceivably make it past the Christmas tree agricultural safeguards and be transported via the Christmas tree pathway. Therefore, it’s a good idea to set up some easy messaging on disposing of Christmas trees via municipal mulching programs if locally available. Discourage people from dumping trees in backyards- that’s not a best practice when it comes to forest health!

[Read up on Disposing of your Christmas Tree >>](#)

January FOCI Webinar Bonanza

This upcoming January will feature several FOCI webinars designed to start the year right with information on firewood regulations and firewood outreach. Click each link to get the full details and dates- and stay tuned for the January FOCI Newsletter for any updates or additional webinar opportunities!

[Regulations that apply to moving firewood right now, Jan 16 2019, noon ET >>](#)
[Don't Move Firewood Campaign- Present and Planned, Jan 29 2019, 1pm ET >>](#)

New paper on what motivates campers’ firewood behavior

Social science is critical to effective outreach- so take some time to read the recent research out of Maine and New Hampshire on forest pests, campers’ beliefs, and what we know about people’s choices and motivation to move firewood. You’ve got two choices- jump immediately into the full abstract and paper, or read the new blog on Don’t Move Firewood written by guest author David Coyle of Clemson University.

[Read the full article published in Forest Science >>](#)
[Read a brief summary blog >>](#)

Photo of the month: Storing firewood outside without a tarp or shed isn't a great idea even though it makes for a pretty photo. Snowy or wet wood wastes energy and creates harmful fine particulate air pollution as it burns. Learn more about better firewood storage at <https://www.epa.gov/burnwise>

Infestations and Regulations

FORWARD THIS TO A
COLLEAGUE »

Map Quiz: Asian longhorned tick

The Asian longhorned beetle is currently managed by USDA APHIS led eradication programs in Ohio, Massachusetts, and on Long Island NY. In contrast, the Asian longhorned tick has no eradication strategy at this time, and has recently been determined to be present in... which EIGHT states? Write down a couple, and then check your answer! *Side note: this map quiz has nothing to do with firewood, and everything to do with the fact that this tick has a similar name to ALB and thus is confusing.*

[Current distribution of Asian longhorned tick >>](#)
[Potential range of Asian longhorned tick >>](#)

Don't Move Firewood Campaign

Save the Date for PlayCleanGo Week!

This summer, three major national awareness campaigns are coming together to support the first-ever PlayCleanGo Week, planned for June 1st through 8th 2019. The [PlayCleanGo campaign](#) will host an online action kit with help from the [USDA's Hungry Pests](#) and The Nature Conservancy's [Don't Move Firewood campaigns](#), making it a one-stop-shop for outdoor recreation outreach. The first week in June is a great time to teach campers, homeowners, and field workers how they can slow the spread of invasive species- and it'll be bookended by great partnership opportunities with both National Trails Day and National Get Outdoors Day!

In the News

[Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Winning Fight Against Destructive, Disease-Carrying Snail](#)
20 Dec 2018

[USDA Traveler Website Helps Santa and His Elves Know What Agricultural Items Can Safely Be Brought into the U.S. as Christmas Presents](#)
18 Dec 2018

[EPA Takes Steps to Improve Regulations for Wood Heaters](#)
21 Nov 2018

[Scientists spent years on a plan to import this wasp to kill stinkbugs. Then it showed up on its own.](#)
9 Aug 2018

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](#)

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