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# FOCI Newsletter

Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative

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**DON'T MOVE  
FIREWOOD.org**



## Asian longhorned beetle infestation confirmed in South Carolina

In late May 2020, an observant resident of Hollywood, SC noticed and reported an unusual black and white spotted beetle near a porch light at their home. That beetle unfortunately turned out to be one of many Asian longhorned beetles infesting trees in the area, and USDA APHIS is now working with the Clemson Department of Plant Industry and Clemson Extension to understand the geographic scope of the infestation, as well as how the beetle is spreading in this coastal South Carolina habitat...

[Read the rest of this blog on Don't Move Firewood >>](#)

## Tree Check Month is coming in August

All around the world, people are spending more time in their own backyards and local neighborhoods- and with that unexpected shift, forest health professionals have a big opportunity to promote Tree Check Month! The focus on Tree Check Month is to check the trees around you for signs of a Asian longhorned beetle- holes, damaged branches, or even the beetles themselves. This event is led by USDA APHIS and is supported by Don't Move Firewood, Plant Heroes, and others with an array of great educational materials.

[Find a curated list of Tree Check outreach here>>](#)

## Plant Protection Act 7721 Funding Process Open

This year's open period for submitting proposals (formally called "suggestions") to the Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Program through USDA APHIS and the Plant Protect Act Section 7721 began **July 16, 2020 and will close August 21, 2020**. This funding mechanism has historically supported over a dozen state-based firewood education related projects each year, as well as the national Don't Move Firewood campaign itself.

[Learn about the process for PPA 7721 funds >>](#)

## Smarter Invasive Species Terminology Use

Have you ever wondered about the pros and cons of picking between the various synonyms of exotic, non-native, and alien? Here is where a person could make a pop culture Joe Exotic joke, but we won't. Regardless on your opinions on big cats, you might be a science professional that should read the new paper "**Invasive Species Terminology: Standardizing for Stakeholder Education**" from the Journal of Extension. This paper has practical applications for any firewood and forest pest related communicators.

[Read about terminology research here >>](#)

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Photo of the month: The newly discovered Asian longhorned beetle infestation in South Carolina has been heavily attacking lowland red maples in the infested area. In this photo, you can see two shallow egg pits and one deeper emergence hole. Learn more here: <https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/asian-longhorned-beetle/>

## Infestations and Regulations

### Map Quiz: Good news on ALB

In an odd turn of timing, in the same month that a North American city declared their infestation of Asian longhorned beetle eradicated, the new South Carolina infestation was announced. Let's focus on the positive- what city announced that it had formally eradicated the beetle in June 2020?

[Find the answer here >>](#)

## Don't Move Firewood Campaign

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### In the News

**Beech tree disease makes its way to Rhode Island**  
July 13 2020

**Falmouth sees markedly fewer browntail moth nests due to spraying, fungus**  
June 2 2020

**Emerald ash borer detected in Fort Collins area**  
May 13 2020

## DMF Evaluation and Report is done!

The Don't Move Firewood campaign passed its 12th year in existence earlier this year- wow! Big thanks to everyone who helped the staff of The Nature Conservancy gather data for the past year on what the DMF campaign has done right, done wrong, and might do better in the future. Your contributions were critical to our abilities to plot a course into the future with highly diverse stakeholder involvement.

[Read the Don't Move Firewood – Campaign Evaluation and Report here >>](#)

## We have started to ship your stuff!

Due to very strict safety protocols, it is still a struggle to access the bulk outreach items storage area and ship packages out. Sorry! We've made it through the first two batches of back orders and are inching closer to getting caught up. Be safe, and thanks for your continued patience with this significant delay.

## 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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