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FOCI Newsletter

Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative

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PlayCleanGo Awareness Week starts on Saturday!

PlayCleanGo Awareness Week is all but here. This public education week is scheduled for June 4-11 across North America and is managed by North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA). The goal is to encourage outdoor recreationists to help slow the spread of invasive species through cleaning their gear, vehicles, pets, and more. Responsible firewood practices are fully incorporated into this important educational campaign! Curious what's new this year? All new Spanish language translations of all materials, plus some fresh and simple graphics!

[Find all #PlayCleanGo campaign materials here >>](#)

Spotted Lanternflies are Hatching Now!

Now is the time to get a jump on this invasive plant hopper... maybe literally. Officials have encouraged the public to stomp and smash the spotted lanternfly (SLF) among other efforts to remove the threat from our natural and agricultural resources. May and June is when the nymphs begin hatching and feeding. The first three instar stages are black with white spots while the final stage shows a brilliant red color. Early detection is everything when it comes to successful management efforts so share both nymph and adult SLF imagery far and wide so people know what to look for!

[Keep up with the Current Range of SLF in the US >>](#)

Managing for Invasive Shothole Borers

The University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources has a new web page dedicated to the management of invasive shothole borers, multiple species of which are reaping havoc on California's resources. Within this page is succinct and highly important information useful for the public and forest health professionals alike. Be sure to check out their section on firewood and safe disposal of infested material!

[Check out the UCANR shothole page here! >>](#)

Coming up in July: National Moth Week

The 11th annual National Moth Week is sneaking up and is scheduled for July 23-31. There's much in the beauty and diversity of moths to celebrate. This week also provides an excellent opportunity to educate the public on those invasive species in North America that warrant extra attention so as to reduce their spread of destruction; we're looking at you, spongy moth!

[Learn more about National Moth Week here >>](#)

Photo of the month: Spotted lanternfly nymphs start hatching in May and June and look very different from the more commonly recognized adults. Photo credit: L. Downs of The Nature Conservancy

Infestations and Regulations

Two years later: Asian longhorned beetle in still South Carolina

This is the two year anniversary of the discovery of Asian longhorned beetle in South Carolina. Each year, the USDA evaluates and determines the best strategies for the ongoing eradication efforts here as well as those states with longer running infestations including Massachusetts, New York, and Ohio. This year, there is added focus on the people who live in and around infestation zones, with officials stressing the need for the public to check their trees, report suspicious tree damage, and of course, not move firewood!

[View the 2022 USDA ALB eradication plan >>](#)

Don't Move Firewood Campaign

Call to Action Phrase Options!

All awareness events are best complemented by a concrete call to action (CTA). Here are four go-to phrases to promote responsible firewood practices:

1. Transporting #firewood can spread pests. Buy local or certified heat-treated firewood, or responsibly gather it on site!
2. Help stop the spread of invasive #forestpests. Use certified, heat-treated or locally harvested firewood.
3. Want to protect #wildlife? Don't move #firewood. It can spread invasive pests hidden inside.
4. #Firewood is an important forest product for many rural communities. Buy local or harvest with a permit

FORWARD THIS TO A COLLEAGUE »

In the News

Spotted lanternflies are hatching again. But how far do they spread each year?

May 30, 2022

Report: Maintaining and enhancing forest biodiversity in Europe

May 30, 2022

Asian longhorned beetle infestation puts 76 square miles of Charleston, Dorchester in quarantine

May 27, 2022

Birds Have a Role to Play in Confronting a Notorious Tree-Killing Beetle

May 27, 2022

U.S. Cities Swap Dead Trees for New in Circular Economy for Forests

May 26, 2022

Satellite Remote Sensing Could Predict Spotted Lanternfly Spread

May 25, 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!

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