

If you are having trouble viewing this e-mail, please [visit us here](#).

# FOCI Newsletter

Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative

BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
**DONTMOVE  
FIREWOOD.org**



## August is Tree Check Month!

It's still August- which means Tree Check Month is still in full swing! There's plenty time left for outreach, like asking folks to take a few minutes to check trees for evidence of forest pests. Asian longhorned beetle is particularly active this time of year, so everyone is encouraged to take 10 minutes to check their trees for signs of these and other invasive insects and diseases. Early detection goes a long way in successfully managing forest pests.

[Click here for more information and free downloads >>](#)

## Check Out USDA APHIS' Five-Year Strategy to Combat Spotted Lanternfly

In case you missed it, USDA released its five-year strategy to deal with the pesky spotted lanternfly this last June. The strategy relies on cooperation between the federal government and states to help limit the spread of spotted lanternfly via human movement, promotes public reporting for early detection, and increases research and communication to ensure management strategies are in line with the latest risk-assessment modeling data.

[Learn more here >>](#)

## Webinar Alert: More Bugs are Coming

Mark your calendars for the upcoming webinar "**More Bugs are Coming... What this means for your trees and what you can do about it!**" on Wednesday, **September 13th from 4PM to 5PM EDT**. This webinar will discuss forest pest impacts in urban areas- which are some of the first places that forest pests usually establish and infest. Don't Move Firewood's team is promoting this webinar opportunity because firewood from urban and suburban backyards is at particularly high risk of containing forest pests for this exact reason- and it's great to hear the other end of the conversation on what these pests mean to people and nature around cities, towns, and parks.

[Register and read more here >>](#)

## Save the Date! National Firewood Bank Summit

The US Forest Service, in collaboration with the University of Maine, is organizing a nation-wide online summit for anyone interested in firewood banks on September 15th 2023 from 12-4pm

(EST). In case you're not familiar with firewood banks- they are like food banks, but instead of providing food they provide firewood for folks in need of help with home heating. Visit [FirewoodBanks.org](https://www.firewoodbanks.org) to learn more about firewood banks in general as well as related funding opportunities. You can fill out the form on their main website (it's on the first page, just be sure to scroll down) to receive more information and updates on the summit as they are available.

[Visit FirewoodBanks.org >>](https://www.firewoodbanks.org)

Photo of the Month: Clemson Department of Plant Industry staff looking for signs of ALB damage in South Carolina. Photo credit: Jacob Beach.

## Infestations and Regulations

### Invasive Yellow-legged Hornet Found in Georgia

The Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) as well as USDA APHIS have confirmed the detection of a yellow-legged hornet in the state in August 2023. This is the first time this insect has been found alive in the United States. These hornets pose a serious threat to pollinators like honeybees and native bees, and are therefore a great threat to agricultural resources. GDA officials are asking the public to report sightings using an [online reporting form](#).

[Read the Press Release here >>](#)

## Don't Move Firewood Campaign

### DMF Staff Will Be Out and About This Fall!

Don't Move Firewood will be featuring a table at the [New York Invasive Species Expo](#) this September as well as presenting at the Annual *Lymantria dispar* Review (ALDR) meeting in Morgantown, West Virginia in late October. If you plan on attending either of these events, please come say hi! Also, let us know if there is a future in-person or virtual event that you would like Don't Move Firewood to consider participating in. We're a great resource for firewood outreach and even information on the regulatory environment affecting firewood across all of North America.

[Need outreach Ideas?  
Visit our Resource Library >>](#)

FORWARD THIS TO A  
COLLEAGUE »

## In the News

[Canadians asked to watch for invasive pests](#)  
August 14

[APHIS adds Lake and Whitley Counties, Indiana to the spongy moth \(\*Lymantria dispar\*\) quarantine area](#)  
August 9

[Recognize Invasive Pests to Protect Plants](#)  
August 7

[Tree-defoliating moth having a banner year in Wisconsin](#)  
July 31

[Emerald ash borers are decimating Texas trees. Wasps might help defeat them.](#)  
July 25

[Emerald ash borer found in more N.C. counties, threatening trees](#)  
July 19

## 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

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)



Don't Move Firewood  
4245 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 100  
Arlington, Virginia 22203-1606

