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# FOCI Newsletter

Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative

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**DON'T MOVE  
FIREWOOD.org**



## Safe Disposal of Woody Storm Debris

Fallen trees are among the many hazards and challenges that hurricane season brings. In the wake of these major storms, it is extremely important for folks to know that moving woody debris over long distances can inadvertently spread tree-killing insects to new places. In places with known infestations or quarantines, giving clear directions for safe disposal is crucial. A recent Alert from our friends at USDA APHIS and Clemson University's Department of Plant Industry regarding the South Carolina Asian Longhorned Beetle Eradication Program in light of Storm Idalia is a perfect example of the timely education and outreach that's needed after events like these.

[South Carolina Alert for Woody Debris Disposal in ALB Quarantine Area >>](#)  
[See past DMF posts about storm debris disposal >>](#)

## Upcoming Webinar: 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 >>](#)

## Upcoming Virtual Meeting: 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://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 >>](#)

## Get ready for Firewood Month!

September has arrived and the décor in all the stores tells us we're not the only ones excited for fall and, well, OCTOBER. We are updating our materials and gearing up for a great Firewood Month this coming October. It's a great opportunity to share the ample outreach materials and resources we have to raise awareness among fall recreationists and share the ways firewood users can prevent the spread of forest pests via the firewood pathway.

[Learn more about Firewood Month >>](#)

Photo of the Month: A downed maple tree after a big storm. Having a plan for safe disposal of woody storm debris helps curtail the risk of forest pests spreading to new locations. Credit: Getty Images

## Infestations and Regulations

### Elm Zigzag Sawfly Popping Up in Multiple Eastern States

Elm zigzag sawfly made its debut in North America in Quebec in 2020 with subsequent detection in VA (2021), and NC, MD, PA, NY in 2022. Unfortunately, we can now add [Vermont](#) and [Massachusetts](#) to the list. This species matures in small cocoons attached to leaves or nearby objects- which definitely could include standing dead trees or cut firewood. It reproduces parthenogenically so just one sawfly is enough to start a whole new infestation.

[Learn more about the Elm Zigzag Sawfly Here>>](#)

## Don't Move Firewood Campaign

### State Summary Review Underway

Here at Don't Move Firewood, we like to keep our resources as up-to-date as humanly possible. Every year we do a thorough review of our [Firewood Map](#) to ensure we have the latest information on firewood rules, relevant pests, and best practice recommendations in each state and province. So, if you know of a new or upcoming regulation or even just a great new website or graphic that you would like to be reflected on your state's page - now is the time to reach out!

[Email Laurel Downs with updates](#)

### South Carolina ALB and DMF Outreach

Big thanks to Steven Long with Clemson University Department of Plant Industry for giving an excellent interview on the Asian longhorned beetle- and for featuring a Don't Move Firewood vertical banner right in the middle of the stage! This is a great

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## In the News

[Scientists Warn Invasive Pests Are Taking a Staggering Toll on Society](#)  
Sep 4 2023

[Maine plans to expand quarantine zones to stop tree-killing pests and protect its timber industry](#)  
Aug 31 2023

[Ontario's Top 5 Invasive Species of Summer 2023](#)  
Aug 24 2023

[Destructive insect makes its way to Halifax area, attacking hemlock trees](#)  
Aug 19 2023

[New York State and Cornell University Integrated Pest Management Program Provide an Update on Spotted Lanternfly in New York City](#)  
Aug 17 2023

[Spotted Lanternfly Found on Nantucket](#)  
Aug 17 2023

example of integrating our custom outreach materials into local messaging. Do you want to customize a pop-up banner for your local needs? Reach out!

[Check out Steven's interview here >>](#)

## 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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