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# FOCI Newsletter

Firewood Outreach Coordinating Initiative

BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
**DON'T MOVE  
FIREWOOD.org**



## Get ready for Firewood Month!

Our favorite month starts now - OCTOBER! October is Firewood Month and a great opportunity to share outreach materials and resources that raise awareness among fall recreationists. Each week of Firewood Month has a different theme and slightly different target audience but these three basic take home messages can be found throughout:

1. Buy local firewood (as close as possible to where it will be burned)
2. Buy certified heat-treated firewood
3. Gather responsibly on-site when permitted

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

## Meet the Firewood Team during October!

**Join us** this October during Firewood Month to discuss the education and outreach efforts of the Don't Move Firewood campaign, including: an overview of what the campaign does, why it's important, how you can access our many resources, and what we've got to offer both the everyday firewood user as well as professionals in the field of forest health. There are two call options in October to accommodate different time zones and schedules; please pick the one that works best for you. Hope to see you there!

[October 12 at 2pm EST Registration >>](#)  
[October 18 at 10am EST Registration >>](#)

Photo of the Month: The New York Invasive Species Expo held a community day where many people learned about invasive species and their pathways of spread. In the emerald ash borer costume is Laurel Downs with the Don't Move Firewood campaign, and rocking the Asian longhorned beetle and spotted lanternfly costumes are Caitlin Steward, District Manager, and Katie WhitKovits, District Technician, of New York's Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District.

## Infestations and Regulations

### Spotted Lanternfly Infestation Confirmed in Illinois for First Time

The spotted lanternfly (SLF) continues its spread outward from the midatlantic states. Its latest find? In Illinois. The Illinois Department of Agriculture has confirmed the first detection of notorious hitchhiker following a report of a live adult on Sept. 16 2023. Since then, a breeding population of SLF has been detected.

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

## Don't Move Firewood Campaign

### Borrow the Emerald Ash Borer Costume!

Have an outreach event coming up and looking for a conversation starter? Our emerald ash borer costume pulls people in! With our costume share program, we can loan it to you at no cost! It's all booked up for October, so reach out if you have need for it in November or onward. We keep it very simple- it's a first come first serve basis, anywhere in the USA, for any education or outreach event that relates to firewood or forest pests. You pay only for outbound shipping, we take care of the rest.

Email [laurel.downs@tnc.org](mailto:laurel.downs@tnc.org) to reserve it!

FORWARD THIS TO A COLLEAGUE »

## In the News

**Oregon forest officials concerned over invasive oak boring beetle**

Sep 20

**MSU research shows emerald ash borer threatening tree species vital to Indigenous cultures**

Sep 19

**The silver lining of some invasive species**

Sep 19

**Fungi's hidden role in the emerald ash borer crisis**

Sep 8

**Elm zigzag sawfly discovered in Ohio**

Sep 6

## 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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