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April 2025

Firewood & Forest Pests Newsletter

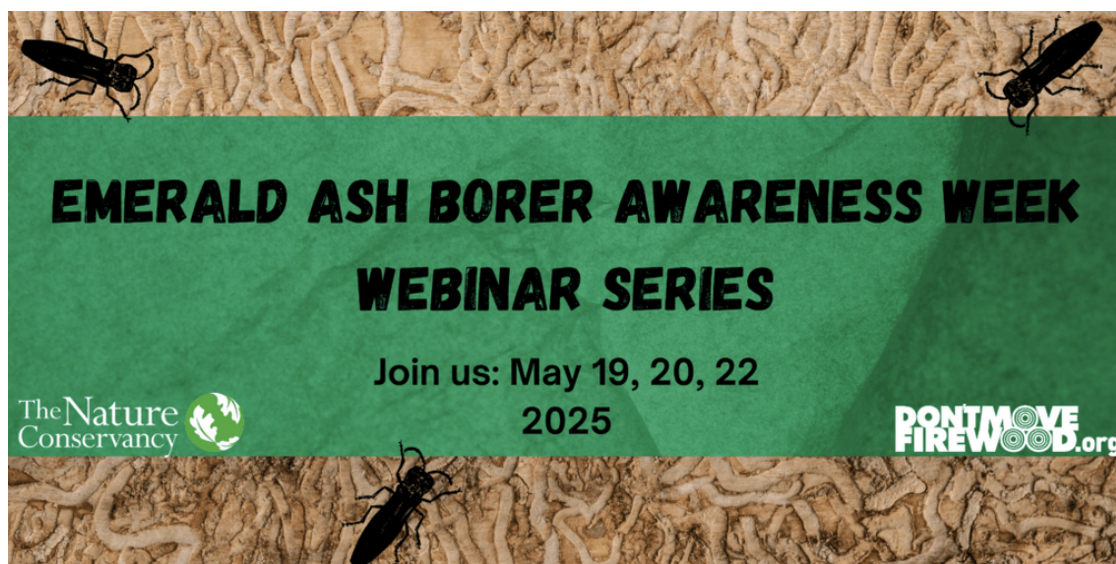


Graphic created by Don't Move Firewood. *Did you know? You can access DMF pictures and graphics downloadable for free for educational purposes on our [Resource Library](#)*

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April is Invasive Plant Pest and Disease Awareness Month!

Spring is gearing up - if not in full bloom - and many families are taking advantage of the warmer weather by getting outside or at least planning their summer and fall outdoor excursions. Many invasive pests are emerging from their winter slumber as well, so take advantage of the timing and put out your finest invasive pest and disease outreach to increase awareness and reduce invasive species spread! Remember - we have an extensive collection of online tools and graphics in our [Resource Library](#) for ideas, or you can use the [Hungry Pests Partner Toolkits](#) for Invasive Plant Pest and Disease Awareness Month (IPPDAM) related outreach.



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EAB Awareness Week is May 18-25, 2025

The Don't Move Firewood campaign is hosting FOUR awesome webinars during Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week this year. Join us May 19, 20, and 22nd to learn about EAB impacts and management, cultural resources of black ash, and social media message frame testing on invasive species outreach! See below for more information and each webinar's individual registration link:

Monday, May 19th at 2:00pm EST

Impacts and Management of Emerald Ash Borer

Presentation by: Kathleen Knight, Research Ecologist, USFS Northern Research Station <<[REGISTER HERE](#)>>

Monday, May 19th at 4:00pm EST

Don't Move Firewood Social Media Message Frame Testing: Emotional versus Objective Language

Presentation by: Leigh Greenwood, Forest Pest and Pathogen Program Director, The Nature Conservancy and Gabriel Barrile, Assistant Professor, University of Wyoming <<[REGISTER HERE](#)>>

Tuesday, May 20th at 2:00pm EST

Roots of Resilience: Fighting the EAB Impact on Wetlands

Presentation by: Alexis Grinde, Research Program Manager, Natural Resources Research Institute <<[REGISTER HERE](#)>>

Thursday, May 22nd at 2:00pm EST

The Impacts of EAB and the Efforts to Preserve Black Ash

Presentation by: Jessica Raspitha, Land Resources Program Manager, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe <<[REGISTER HERE](#)>>

[See here for more details on each webinar >>](#)

Celebrate Earth Day with Educational

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Getting ready to educate kids and adults during your upcoming Earth Day celebration? Download our free materials today, and help save trees and forests from invasive forest pests! Earth Day 2025 is also during [National Park Week](#) (April 19-27), so check out a national park near you and remember to check out the “Know Before You Go” section when reserving a camping spot - most national parks ask that you either use local or certified, heat-treated firewood at their campgrounds!

[See here for fun kids activities by DMF and others >>](#)

Get Ready for Arbor Day 2025!

On April 25, millions of Americans will observe Arbor Day by planting new trees! While planting trees is important to the well-being of our forests, it is just as critical to learn how to protect both new and older trees from damage by invasive insects and diseases. The death of large, mature trees due to these pests can be devastating to neighborhoods, parks, and natural areas.

Arbor Day Tree Protection Tips to Share:

- Buy your trees and plants from a reputable source, and purchase certified, pest-free nursery stock whenever possible.
- Burn firewood and other woody debris near where it was sourced – that means the wood was cut in a nearby forest, in the same county, or preferably within 10 miles from where you'll have your fire. Take care to respect state and local regulations on the movement of firewood and other unprocessed wood - this information can be found in our [Firewood Map](#)!
- If you have been camping or hiking in a forested area, clean your equipment, boots, animals, and gear before returning home so not to spread unwanted forest pests or invasive plant seeds.
- Be on the lookout for invasive pests, and if you notice an insect or tree disease you don't recognize, take a photo or obtain a specimen of it, and contact your state

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Forest Pests In the News

[A notorious, tree-chewing pest could be making a comeback in Colorado \(MPB\)](#)
Colorado Public Radio News; April 2, 2025

[Early detection strategies for invading tree pests: targeted surveillance and stakeholder perspectives \(EAB\)](#)
SEI Publications; March 24, 2025

[New research offers hope in the war against the emerald ash borer](#)
Michigan Farm News; March 21, 2025

[Natural insect predators may serve as allies in spotted lanternfly battle](#)
Penn State, Agricultural Sciences; March 17, 2025

[Intercontinental movement of exotic fungi on decorative wood used in aquatic and terrestrial aquariums](#)
Scientific Reports; March 17, 2025

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This newsletter is produced by staff of The Nature Conservancy's Forest Pest and Pathogen Program.

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