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May 2025: Firewood & Forest Pests Newsletter



Photo by EduardSV from Getty Images, accessed on CANVA. Did you know? Memorial Day Weekend (May 24-26 2025) kicks of the busiest season for many parks and campgrounds in the USA.

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Campers are Gearing up for Memorial Day Weekend

Memorial Day Weekend (May 24-26 2025) will be here before you know it! This time of year kicks off the camping season for many in the United States and folks are in the planning stages now. To ensure campground visitors know about firewood choices before they show up to your area, you'll need to have a robust online outreach environment. This is a friendly reminder to make sure you include firewood messaging on all relevant webpages and campground reservation portals!! Then, to reinforce that message, it is also good to have firewood signage and other physical outreach materials on site or en-route to raising awareness about the risks of traveling with firewood.



JOIN US FOR OUR WEBINAR SERIES!

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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 >>

EAB University Webinars!

Emerald Ash Borer University is also coming out with some fantastic webinars during their Spring 2025 Webinar Series!! Be sure to check out the line up and register ASAP to hear more about an array of different invasive pests! Want to stay in the

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Click here for more on the EABU Spring 2025 Webinar Series >>

APHIS Adds to Spongy Moth Quarantined Area

The spongy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) population in La Crosse County, Wisconsin has reached the threshold to trigger a quarantine expansion by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the state of Wisconsin, effective immediately. To prevent further spread of spongy moth, this <u>Federal Order</u> provides notification that APHIS is adding La Crosse County in Wisconsin to the regulated area in accordance with <u>7 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 301.45</u> et. seq.

See here for more information and regulations on spongy moth >>

Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine Changes

As the spotted lanternfly (SLF) continues spreading in the US it can be a struggle to keep up with the rapid detection and regulatory developments. Pennsylvania recently expanded its internal quarantine with the addition of four northeast and northwest counties. In contrast, Virginia repealed their SLF quarantine but still ask that folks report new findings to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as they continue to monitor for this pest. SLF eggs are hatching now, so it's a good time for outreach if you're in a position to get the word out on this pest in your state. Community reporting is often the first source of new detections!

Keep track of reported SLF distributions here >>

PlayCleanGo week is right around the corner! June 7-14, 2025 marks this special outreach event, hosted by the North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA). Here at Don't Move Firewood, we promote the PlayCleanGo message alongside our firewood-specific messaging in order to educate the broadest possible audience of outdoor enthusiasts. Check out the plethora of outreach tools and inspiration over at NAISMA and learn how you can help raise awareness.

Learn more about Play Clean Go Week and access the Toolkit here >>

On the Internet, mistakes can linger

The recent US Customs and Border Protection news release <u>CBP finds invasive</u> wood boring insect in Port Huron railyard initially erroneously listed the Cerambycid family beetle (which was a *Monochamus spp.*) as an Asian longhorned beetle instead of the more generic correct term of longhorned beetles. This mistake has since been corrected- but because of the other news stories that picked up the wording in the initial press release, search results such as the Google Search Al Overview are still listing ALB instead of *Monochamus*. Take this as a reminder that care and diligence on press releases, and double checking Al search results against original sources and independent validation, is always a good choice!

Sign up for this newsletter

If you received our newsletter from a colleague forwarding you this email and are interested in subscribing to receive it monthly, please use our sign-up portal found here!

CBP finds invasive wood boring insect in Port Huron railyard CBP Newsrelease; April 7, 2025

Emerald ash borer discovered on Mount Desert Island (Maine)

Maine Dept. of Agriculture; April 1, 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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