

April 2026 Firewood & Forest Pests Newsletter



*Love that springtime sound. A spring peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer*) sits on a leaf on the forest floor. Photo*



Webinar Alert!

MAY 19, 20, 21



Don't Move Firewood
Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week
Webinar Series

2026





REGISTER dontmovefirewood.org/eabweek2026

Register Now: EAB Week Webinars

Emerald ash borer Awareness Week is around the corner! The Don't Move Firewood campaign hosts a series of webinars each year during the week before Memorial Day as a way to learn about this notorious firewood hitchhiker and other pests that spread via the firewood pathway. The registration links are ready to go with this year's webinars so be sure to sign up and get them on your calendar now! For more details on each webinar, see [here](#).

Tuesday May 19, 2026 @ 11:00am EST

Resistance to EAB is real - here's what we can do to help restore ash in the future

[Register Here](#)

Wednesday May 20, 2026 @ 1:00 EST

Ash-kicking Outreach in Oregon and Washington

[Register Here](#)

Thursday May 21, 2026 @ 1:00 EST

EAB from crisis to opportunity: managing & growing a resilient urban forest in Minneapolis, MN

Spongy Moth Quarantine Expanded in Wisconsin

The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has announced that the quarantine area for spongy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) has been expanded to include Green and Sawyer Counties in Wisconsin. For more information on spongy moth and the full list of regulated areas look to the [APHIS Spongy Moth webpage](#).

[See here for an interactive map of the spongy moth regulated areas](#)

EAB University Webinars





Image of current emerald ash borer infestation map in North America where the insect is established in 38 states and six provinces. Image obtained from [Emerald Ash Borer Information Network](#)

Emerald Ash Borer University (EAB U) is in the midst of their spring seminar series. Check out their [schedule](#) here and register for the talks they have lined up. Recordings will be accessible on this webpage as well after each event.

Now is Not the Time to Prune Oaks

Oak wilt is caused by a non-native fungi that can spread on sap beetles as they move from infected logs (LIKE FIREWOOD) or trees to healthy trees, especially freshly cut or wounded ones. Warm weather brought on by spring is a particularly risky time for spread because the beetles have higher activity levels. The riskiest months vary by state due to different climatic zones, with a large overlap of now (late April) through mid summer. Learn more about [oak wilt](#) and determine the best pruning guidelines in

[Texas Oak Pruning Guidelines >>](#)[USFS Oak Wilt Map and Info for NE and Midwest](#)

And How About Some MORE WEBINARS

The US Forest Service Northern Research Station Research & Development is putting on a webinar series this May that are focused on invasive species in eastern forests! See below for some examples or head to their [webpage](#) for a list of all them.

Tuesday May 5, 2pm EST

Invasive Species in Eastern Forests: Extent, Impact, and Response

[Register here >>](#)

Thursday May 14, 2pm EST

Management Solutions for Emerald Ash Borer

[Register here >>](#)

Tuesday May 19, 2pm EST

Tracking Spongy Moth Defoliation and the Economics of Slowing the Spread

[Register here >>](#)

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Recent Forest Pest Publications

[Warming temperatures and shifting precipitation patterns may exacerbate pest damage in North American forests](#)

Nature Ecology & Evolution, April 17, 2026

[Vulnerability of Canadian forests to invasive insects under climate change](#)

Canadian Journal of Forest Research, April 15, 2026

[Recovery from Emerald Ash Borer \(*Agilus planipennis* Fairmaire\) Infestation in a Suburban Lake Environment](#)

Natural Built Social Environment Health, April 7, 2026

Forest Pests In the News

[Firewood banks: Investing to reduce wildfire risk and heat homes](#)

USFS, April 20, 2026

[Invasive insects, disease now kill more trees in the Northeast than logging, study finds](#)

GBH, April 13, 2026

[Palm-killing beetle found on Moloka'i for first time, rediscovered on Maui](#)

Honolulu Civil Beat, April 8, 2026

[A common pest could wreak havoc across forests already vulnerable from January's ice storm](#)

mpb News, April 6, 2026

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

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