

July 2026 Firewood & Forest Pests Newsletter



Photo of male and female adult spongy moths (Lymantria dispar); photo credit: by John Ghent, Bugwood.org.



Next Week is National Moth Week

[National Moth Week](#) is fluttering in during July 18-26 of this year which means there's still time to plan for some illuminating outreach! This event celebrates the beauty, diversity, and ecological importance of moths. It's a great opportunity to shed light on some of the ones we consider damaging in North America. This includes the notorious spongy moth, but other damaging moths like winter moth and browntailed moth are also worth a shout-out in some areas. Since it's us humans that drive the spread of these pests and others, consider bringing the message home by empowering folks to use best practices when it comes to activities like camping, landscaping, and gardening!

PPA 7721 Open Period Soon

USDA APHIS will soon be announcing the open period for submitting Suggestions

Opportunities”. If you are considering applying for funding for FY27, make sure to read the [FY 2027 Implementation Plan](#) as it contains important background information, objectives, and strategies of the six goal areas. Please feel free to reach out to us for insight into suggestions focusing on the 5th Goal area: Targeted Outreach and Education, as that is what we specialize in when we apply each year for support of the the Don’t Move Firewood campaign. We are always happy to work with you in crafting a Suggestion in partnership with Don’t Move Firewood. Happy suggesting, everyone!

[More about the implementation plan >>](#)



Photo of tree damage (emergence hole) caused by Asian longhorned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*) with pencil for scale. Photo by Joe Boggs, Ohio State University, Bugwood.org.

Get Ready for Tree Check Month!

The United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS) organizes Tree Check Month for August of each year. It is a time where everyday folks are encouraged to save America's trees by taking some time to look at the trees in our backyards and neighborhoods and report signs of tree damage from Asian longhorned beetle or any other suspected invasive species. This time of year is when Asian longhorned beetle adults are usually active and emerging,

links below.

[Tree Check Month website by USDA APHIS >>](#)

[More Tree Check Month Resources >>](#)

New Collaborative Fact Sheet!

FIREWOOD AND FOREST PESTS

KEEP FIREWOOD LOCAL

TAKE THESE STEPS TO PROTECT TREES FROM FOREST PESTS

Tree-killing insects and diseases can lurk in or on firewood. These pests can't move far on their own, but when people move firewood they can jump hundreds of miles. New infestations destroy our forests, property values, and cost huge sums of money to control.



LEARN LOCAL RULES AND BEST PRACTICES

- Many states have rules, regulations, and quarantines that state how far is too far to move firewood. Always learn the local rules and regulations before transporting firewood.
- This **Firewood Map** can help you figure out how far is too far in your area.

UNDERSTAND FIREWOOD AND FOREST PESTS

- Firewood is destined to be burned, so it might seem like forest pests would not survive. Unfortunately, firewood still poses a high risk to forest health because of fungal spores that fall from wood, egg masses that hatch before use, and insects that emerge from the bark.
- Simple steps, like seasoning the wood in a covered shed for two summers before transporting it, can provide huge benefits to both the firewood user- and to forest health by greatly reducing the risk of transporting non-native forest pests and pathogens in cordwood.
- Different parts of the country have different forest pest concerns and risks. Learn your area's specific situation by visiting the **Don't Move Firewood Map**.



HELPFUL RESOURCES FOR FIREWOOD AND FOREST PESTS

- Don't Move Firewood: includes outreach materials and contains a map of rules, regulations, and best practices for all 50 states: **Dontmovefirewood.org/map**
- National Plant Board Firewood Working Group Guidelines: includes scientific, regulatory, and best management practices for firewood producers. **firewood.nationalplantboard.org**



Questions? Email info@forgreenheat.org

can't forget about the tens of thousands of people who use firewood for heat! We worked with Alliance for Green Heat (AGH) recently to forge a simple and straightforward [fact sheet](#) that outlines why using local firewood is important, including some basic best practices for sourcing wood locally. Thanks to our friends over at AGH for continuing to promote best practices—both for home heating, and for the prevention of forest pests—in their nationwide Firewood Banks program!

[AGH Firewood Banks Home Page >>](#)

EAB Confirmed in New Places in OR

The Oregon Department of Forestry has recently announced that emerald ash borer has been confirmed in at least three new communities. These areas include a shopping center parking lot in Tualatin, a parking lot outside Newberg, and a private residence in Silverton. These new detections are not unexpected and are arguably a great sign that public outreach is working, since each detection was reported by private citizens recognizing the signs of EAB damage and reporting them on [Oregon's invasive species hotline](#).

[Read the full story here >>](#)

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Recent Forest Pest Publications

[Range of detection and naturalistic search performance for spotted lanternfly \(*Lycorma delicatula*\) egg masses](#)
Pub Med Central, June 9, 2026

[Status of ash \(*Fraxinus spp.*\) in mixed hardwood post-outbreak forests near the epicentre of the emerald ash borer invasion](#)
Agriculture and Forest Entomology, June 8, 2026

Forest Pests In the News

[Foresters adapt as insects become driving force in tree mortality](#)
VT Digger, July 6, 2026

[P.E.I. is the last province without emerald ash borer. Moving firewood risks that security](#)
The Guardian July 2, 2026

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[Entomology Today July 2, 2026](#)

[Invasive elm zigzag sawfly detected in Michigan](#)

[MI Agriculture & Rural Development, June 23, 2026](#)

[Leave the firewood, clean boots and other tips to reduce spread of invasive species](#)

[Iowa Capital Dispatch, June 19, 2026](#)

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