May 2026 Firewood & Forest Pests Newsletter



Photo of an adult emerald ash borer (Agrilus planipennis) on bark. Photo credit: Pennsylvania

DONTMOVEFIREWOOD.org

NEXT WEEK is Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week

The week before Memorial Day each year marks Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week (this year it's May 17 - 23, 2026). Emerald ash borer (EAB) remains one of the greatest threats to tree health in North America. The good news? Everyone can play a part at slowing the spread of this invasive insect simply by keeping firewood local! Knowing the signs and symptoms that this pest is present is also extremely important for early detection of new infestations. A knowledgeable public can help with both slowing the spread and new detections. Here at Don't Move Firewood, we are excited to share top-notch outreach and education resources needed to raise awareness on EAB; spread the word, not the pest!

See here for EAB resources and outreach toolkit >>

Register Now: EAB Week Webinars

The Don't Move Firewood campaign hosts a series of webinars each year during EAB Awareness Week as a way to learn about this notorious firewood hitchhiker and other issues related to the firewood pathway. Registration links are ready to go with next week's webinars so be sure to sign up! For more details on all webinars, 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

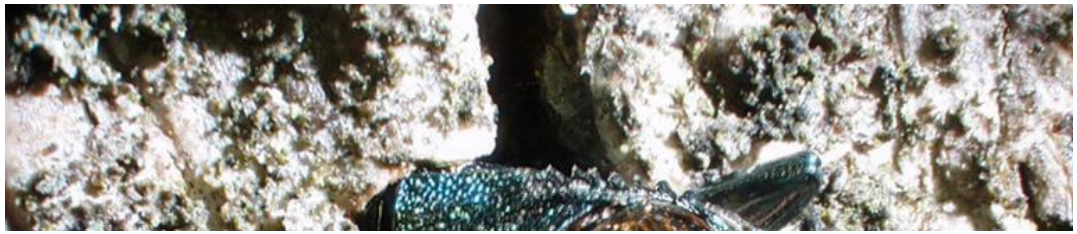
Register Here

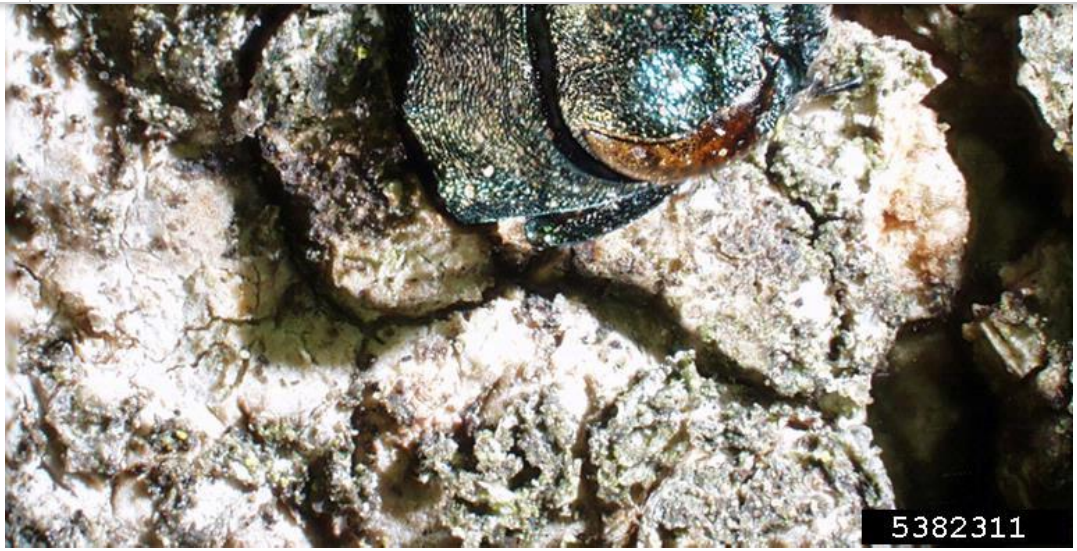
Wednesday May 20, 2026 @ 1:00 EST
Ash-kicking Outreach in Oregon and Washington

Register Here

Thursday May 21, 2026 @ 1:00 EST
EAB from crisis to opportunity: managing & growing a resilient urban forest in Minneapolis, MN

Register Here





An emerald ash borer emerging from the bark. Photo by Eric R. Day, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Bugwood.org

EAB Regulated Areas Expanded in Canada and Maine

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) updated its regulated areas for emerald ash borer (EAB) to include three new areas in Quebec (the Regional County Municipalities of Bonaventure, Charlevoix-Est, and the city of Tuque) as well as part of Hants County in Nova Scotia. Maine expanded their EAB quarantine recently to cover many towns across five counties (Aroostook, Penobscot, Franklin, Somerset, and Piscataquis).

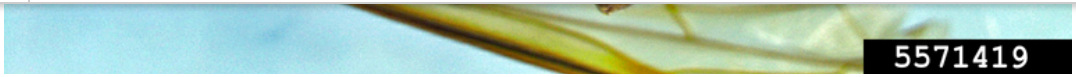
See the CFIA press release here >>

EAB Emerging Earlier in Oregon

With a mild winter and early warm weather taking over the region encompassing Oregon's Williamette Valley, emerald ash borer is expected to emerge earlier this year. Some counties will even see the beetles making their debut during EAB Awareness Week rather than the previously expected time frame in June. Use this link to track emergence expectations by region in Oregon using USPEST, a degree day model. Within USPEST, first search the station you're interested in, then click on the Model tab and select emerald ash borer. Then click on the Output tab and… voila!

Single Yellow-legged Hornet Found in Washington Port





Up close image of an adult yellow-legged hornet. Photo by Allan Smith-Pardo, Invasive Hornets, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

A Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) grain inspector found a living yellow-legged hornet at the Port of Vancouver in Washington late last month during a routine grain inspection. The insect was destroyed after being photographed. The WSDA is now asking the public to be on the lookout for this invasive pest.

Learn more in the WSDA press release >>

PPA 7721 Recipients, We Got You!

be thinking you should budget for Don't Move Firewood outreach items in your work plan, but remember- **if you are in the USA and work or volunteer for a state, federal, local, tribal, or non-profit group, we can provide many services (e.g., custom designs) and bulk outreach materials (e.g., rack cards, tattoos, and stickers) AT NO COST TO YOU!** This is a friendly reminder to not use your limited funding to pay for the things you can request at no cost to you from Don't Move Firewood campaign! If you have questions, please reach out to us!

See here for the PPA 7721 FY2026 Spending Plan >>

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!**

Recent Forest Pest Publications

Ecosystem intruders: understanding and managing invasive forest pests
Frontiers in Forests and Global Change, May 4, 2026

Forest Pests in the News

Campers reminded: Don’t move firewood
Wisconsin DNR Forestry News, May 7, 2026

UH leads state’s fight against invasive species, nearly 100 projects topping $33M
University of Hawai’i News, May 3, 2026

Invasive species meet their match against the Forest Service and the Southeast Conservation Corps
USFS Southern Region, May 1, 2026

USDA invests $90 million to strengthen plant pest prevention and clean plant programs
USDA APHIS, April 28, 2026

Invasive balsam woolly adelgid detected in Roscommon County
Michigan Invasive Species, April 23, 2026

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