

# October 2026 Firewood & Forest Pests Newsletter



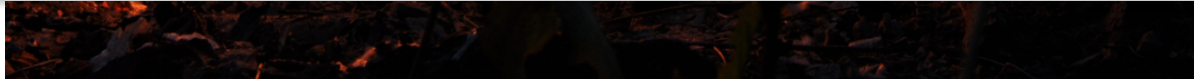


*Photo of a campfire along a lake in Maine in September. Photo credit: Karen Lyons.*



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## Firewood Month is in Full Swing!

**Firewood Month (October) is happening now!** There's still plenty of time to join in on the action. This is the best time of the year (we think)! The temperatures have cooled, leaves are changing, and tons of people are venturing outdoors. Many people are using firewood for recreation like camping or outside a cabin, others are buying or gathering it in preparation for the colder months ahead. Each week in October has a different optional theme, making educational messages tailored to the different audiences that use firewood. [Learn more about Firewood Month here](#) and feel free to download our free toolkit if you're looking for an easy way to schedule out messages and/or graphics promoting responsible firewood practices!

on the firewood pathway, however if you'd like to mix it up with us throughout the month, the weekly themes this year are as follows:

*Week 1 (Oct 1 - 10):* General Information, webinar promotion, and press releases. This week overlaps with [Fire Prevention Week](#), so we'll do cross-promotion with general fire safety as well.

*Week 2 (Oct 11 - 17):* Target fall recreationists—especially groups like campers, hunters, anglers, and RV owners.

*Week 3 (Oct 18 - 24):* Focus on protecting forest health and the important role firewood plays as a forest product. This overlaps with [National Forest Products Week](#) in the USA.

*Week 4 (Oct 25 - 31):* Target messages to those who use firewood in their woodstoves, for heating homes and cabins.

[Firewood Month Schedule & Toolkit >>](#)

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## Firewood Month Webinars



In the fire light of Firewood Month, we have THREE amazing webinars lined up from our very own staff! The first is TOMORROW (THIS WEDNESDAY) and we'd love to see you there. Registration links are below for each webinar:

**Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 at 3pm EST**

*Slowing the spread of Emerald Ash Borer in the Pacific Northwest*

Presentation by Alex Meacham, The Nature Conservancy

[>>Register here](#)

**Tuesday, October 20th, 2026 at 3pm EST**

*The Latest and Greatest in the World of Don't Move Firewood*

Presentation by Laurel Downs, Leigh Greenwood, and Alex Meacham, The Nature Conservancy

[>>Register here](#)

**Wednesday, October 21st, 2026 at 1pm EST**

## *Firewood and the Forest Pest Multiverse: the influence of time on perceptions of regulation and detection*

Presentation by Leigh Greenwood, The Nature Conservancy

[>>Register here](#)

[>>See here for more details on Firewood Month 2026 Webinars<<](#)

## Spotted Lanternfly, the World Traveler

Spotted lanternfly has now been detected in two new countries. In **Canada**, officials confirmed the first national detection in Ontario, marking a significant expansion of the pest's North American range and raising concerns for agriculture and natural resources. Meanwhile in Europe, **Hungary** reported its first finding of spotted lanternfly which led authorities to initiate quarantine measures. These detections highlight the species' continued international spread and the importance of early detection and rapid response efforts. Oof!

[More on the Canada Detection >>](#)

[More on the Hungary Detection >>](#)

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## Michigan Implements New Exterior

We applaud Michigan for taking a proactive step to prevent invasive insects and diseases from spreading through firewood movement. Beginning **January 1, 2027**, untreated firewood from outside the state will no longer be allowed into Michigan under a new quarantine. The rule exempts certified, heat-treated firewood and builds on the state's new [Certified Invasive-Free Firewood](#) program. State officials will focus on education and outreach during the first year of implementation, highlighting the importance of buying local or certified firewood to help protect Michigan's forests, agriculture, and natural resources. Yay Michigan!

[Read more about the new quarantine here >>](#)

## Reminder: We want to supply you with free DMF outreach materials!

If you're looking for fast and easy graphics to share during Firewood Month, look no further than our handy dandy Resource Library! Use the "Item Type" drop down menu to narrow down your search. **Did you know you can also request educational outreach materials in bulk like [stickers, brochures, and temporary tattoos](#) at no cost to you!?** Send an email to [Laurel](#), with the item type and number you want - or request a list of all available items to peruse- and note, orders are subject to availability. *Friendly reminder, while digital downloads are available to all, our bulk outreach items can only be shipped to partners within the USA.*

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## Register for EABU Fall Webinars



Can't get enough webinars?? Well good news, there's a bunch more coming out of EAB University this fall! EABU has a dynamite line up of experts on a range of forest pest and pathology topics like oak wilt, EAB resistance ash breeding, and more. See below for the talks and visit the website for more details; [register today!](#)

**October 13, 2026 at 1pm EST**

*Arrival of non-native forest insects: patterns, processes, and problems*

Presentation by Dr. Sam Ward

## *Management of Some Invasive Trees of the Eastern US*

Presentation by Lenny Farlee

>> [Click Here for Details and Registration Links](#) <<

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## ALB Eradication Efforts Showing Progress in OH and MA

USDA APHIS has announced two reductions to the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) quarantine area following successful survey efforts. Effective immediately, **the entire Town of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts (21.8 square miles)** and **6.2 square miles of southeastern Tate Township, Ohio**, have been removed from quarantine after final surveys found no evidence of ALB. While nearby areas in both states remain under quarantine, these actions mark continued progress toward eradication of this destructive hardwood tree pest! ALB management and monitoring efforts remain active in portions of Massachusetts, Ohio, New York, and South Carolina.

[Visit the USDA APHIS ALB Page for updated information on ALB regulated areas >>](#)

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## Recent Forest Pest Publications

[Editorial: Pests on the move: climate change and the shifting ecology of forest insects](#)  
*Frontiers in Forests and Global Change, September 15, 2026*

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### Forest Pests In the News

[UK entomologist advances technology to protect forests from invasive pests](#)  
*Morning AgClips, October 9, 2026*

[UA-Monticello opens \\$17.5 million forest health research center](#)  
*Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette, October 5, 2026*

[New FAO guide helps countries strengthen forest biosecurity against rising pest threats](#)

[What we're learning and why it matters: Long-term monitoring in the National Capital Region](#)

*National Park Service, September, 2026*

[Vermonters urged to watch for spotted lanternfly adults and egg masses](#)

*the Bridge, September 22, 2026*

[Drought makes trees more susceptible to invasive species. The NC Forest Service is fighting back](#)

*WSOC-TV, September 17, 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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