



How does the DNR's Firewood Rule affect my camping experience in Wisconsin?

Please do not bring firewood with you if you are traveling from more than 50 miles away. It will be confiscated and, if the wood is from a quarantined area, you could be violating federal and state laws and be subject to substantial fines. If you have firewood with you that was purchased in Wisconsin, near the campground you are visiting, please have a receipt ready to show proof of that purchase.



Everyone can take steps to keep Wisconsin State Parks, forests, and other forested and urban areas free of Emerald Ash Borer and other pests and diseases.

- ✓ Buy your firewood inside or near the property where you plan to camp.
- ✓ Burn all the wood that you purchase or leave it behind for another camper.
- ✓ Do not move firewood around with you on your camping trip.

- 1. Where did the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) come from?** The native range of EAB is eastern Russia, northern China, Japan and Korea.
- 2. When was EAB first discovered in North America?** EAB was first identified in southeast Michigan in 2002. It likely arrived several years earlier.

- 3. How did it get to North America?** We don't know exactly, but it most likely traveled in ash wood used for stabilizing cargo in ships or for packing consumer products.
- 4. Where is EAB now?** As of January, 2007, EAB had been found in Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Maryland, and Ontario, Canada. Small infestations have also been eradicated from Virginia. EAB has not been detected in Wisconsin. A federal quarantine is in place for all hardwood firewood, ash logs and trimmings, and ash nursery stock in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and lower Michigan. Anyone moving firewood or ash products from these states is subject to state and federal fines starting at \$250.00.

- 5. How does EAB harm ash trees?** The larval stage of EAB feeds under the bark of trees, cutting off the flow of water and nutrients. Infested trees gradually die over a 2-4 year period.



- 6. Which trees are susceptible?** All sizes and even very healthy ash trees can be killed. All of Wisconsin's native ash trees (green, white, blue and black ash), as well as many horticultural cultivars (cultivated varieties of ash or hybrids between species of ash), are susceptible to EAB infestation.
- 7. How important are ash trees to Wisconsin?** About 20 percent of our street trees are ash, and the loss of these trees would be devastating to many communities and very expensive to remove and replace. There are also approximately 717 million ash trees in Wisconsin's forests. Ash is an important species in our northern and southern forests and a key component of forests growing in wet areas including swamps and along

Buy firewood locally. Burn firewood locally.

river ways. Wisconsin's forest industry also relies on ash for paper, furniture, millwork and dozens of other forest products.

- 8. What does EAB look like?** The adult beetle is dark metallic green and about one-half inch long.



- 9. How does EAB spread?** EAB moves short distances by flying and longer distances through movement of infested ash. Adults typically do not fly far from where they emerge, but this depends on the availability of food (ash trees). In Michigan, studies have shown that the vast majority of insects fly only several hundred yards from where they emerge. EAB has moved on nursery stock or logs in the past, but **movement of firewood is the most common way EAB is being spread today.**

- 10. What is being done about EAB?** There is a national effort to limit the spread and impact of EAB and the plan helps guide federal, state and local management efforts. Infested areas are quarantined to prevent movement of EAB on firewood and other ash products that can carry it. Many states are educating the public on the dangers of moving firewood; the primary way EAB and many other invasive pests and diseases of trees are spreading. Ongoing research and development of safe and effective pesticides, traps, and other management strategies is taking place at state and national levels.

- 11. What is being done in Wisconsin?** The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), the DNR, U.S. Forest Service, the University of Wisconsin and other state and local agencies and groups are working together to educate the public and prepare for a possible infestation. Alerting the public to the risk of moving firewood and introducing EAB is key to prevention. If EAB

is found in Wisconsin, each infestation will be evaluated carefully to determine the most appropriate management action among a range of options. Decisions on whether or not to remove trees from an area will be made on a case by case basis depending on the site, the extent of the infestation, and the likely source.

- 12. Is there anything I can do now to protect the ash trees in my yard from EAB?** There are systemic insecticides on the market, but their effectiveness varies. Treatment is a personal preference, but consumers should educate themselves and use caution when purchasing products that claim to protect trees against EAB. Also, if EAB is found in your area and removal is part of the response based on management review, treated trees will not be given special consideration.

- 13. Is ash still a viable choice when considering what to plant in my yard?** In general, having a diversity of species in your yard, on your street or in your community is your best defense against all tree health problems. If ash comprises 10 percent or more of the tree species in your local area, it would be best to choose an alternative. Ongoing studies are testing native ash and cultivars for resistance to EAB feeding injury. Results are preliminary; resistant cultivars may be available at a future date. Check with your state or county horticultural extension agent for the latest information.



- 14. What can I do to help?** Do not move firewood. Obtain it near where you will use it. Educate yourself on how to recognize signs and symptoms of EAB. Excellent sources of online information are: emeraldashborer.info, dnr.wi.gov/invasives, emeraldashborer.wi.gov. Report possible sightings of EAB by calling 1-800-462-2803.



Keep Wisconsin's Forests Healthy

Don't Move Firewood!



The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services, and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

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PUB-FR-344a 2007