

What's the Word on Firewood?

Firewood can move forest pests long distances.

- ❖ Insects and diseases can be in, on or under the bark of firewood, or even deep within the wood itself.
- ❖ Hauling insect-infested firewood from home dramatically speeds up the spread of invasive insects that harm our forests.
 - An invasive insect population might spread a *few miles* on its own in a *single year*.
 - Moving infested wood can spread the same pest *hundreds of miles* in a *single day*.
- ❖ With global trade our forests are getting more pressure from insects and diseases inadvertently brought to North America and then moved with firewood.

What pests can be moved by firewood?

- ❖ *Emerald ash borer* is one of the scariest insects that can be moved with firewood. It has the potential to kill all ash in North America and has already killed millions of trees in the mid-west.
 - Emerald ash borer is found in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland and Ontario, Canada as of 2007.
 - There is a federal quarantine on all firewood in all or portions of these states and FIREWOOD CAN NOT BE TRANSPORTED ACROSS QUARANTINE LINES.
- ❖ Other serious insects and diseases can be moved with firewood as well. Some of these are:
 - *Sirex Woodwasp* - found in New York, Vermont and Ontario, Canada
 - *Asian Longhorned Beetle* - found in New York, New Jersey and Toronto, Canada
 - *Oak Wilt* - a disease found in central US.

What can you do to help?

**Leave Your Firewood At Home.
Buy It Where You Burn It.
Don't Give Bugs a Free Ride!**

For more information contact:

Maine Forest Service Insect & Disease Lab at 287-2431 or forestinfo@maine.gov

www.Maine.gov/firewood

Please help us protect Maine's forests.