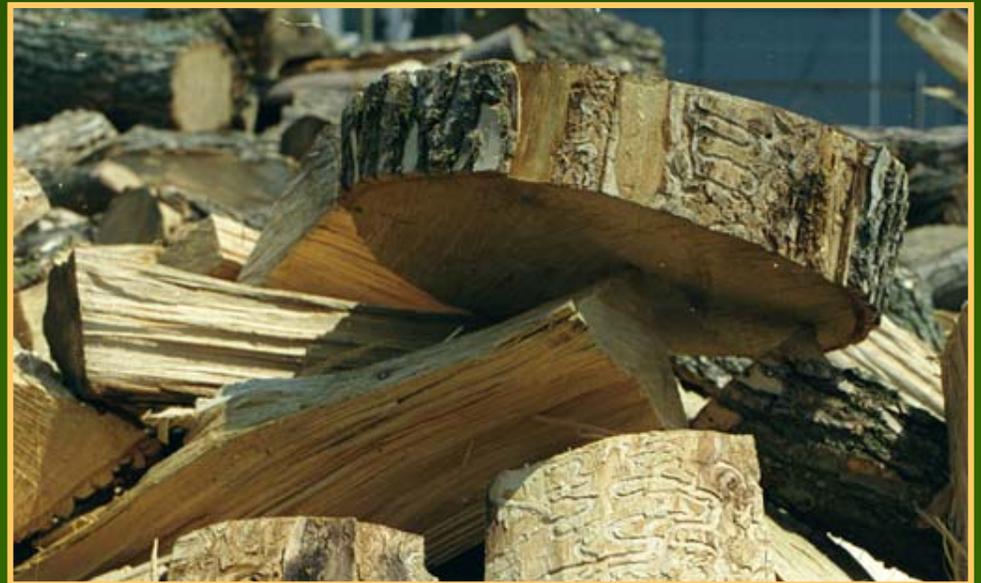


# Regulation of Firewood Entering Wisconsin State Campgrounds, Year 2

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Nov. 28, 2007



# Why focus on firewood?



- ❖ Many forest invasives move on firewood. Nearly all recent finds of EAB have been associated with firewood.
- ❖ Quarantine efforts are challenged by lack of organization of the firewood industry and the fact much is moved by the public.

# Department of Natural Resources role in regulation of firewood.



- ❖ We have no authority to regulate trade but we do run the state campgrounds.
- ❖ We have a high public profile, what we do influences others.
- ❖ We have an opportunity to educate the public when they are using firewood.

# Reducing the risk of forest invasives through management of firewood

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- ❖ Regulation of firewood on DNR lands gets public attention, serves as an example.
- ❖ Associated education effort.
- ❖ Development of safer firewood industry through
  - Firewood dealer certification.
  - research to develop low-cost treatments for firewood.

# 2006 First year of regulation

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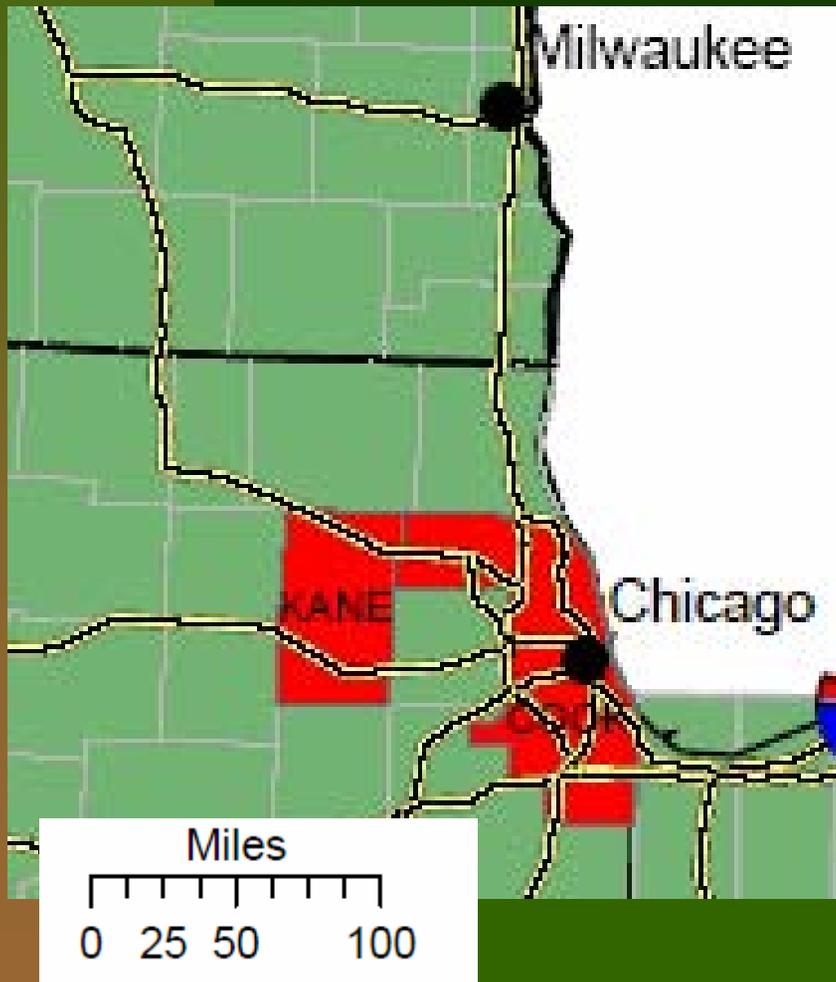
- ❖ Firewood from out-of-state was prohibited from entering DNR properties.
- ❖ Campers from out-of-state notified of regulation during registration.
- ❖ 557 bundles of wood confiscated.
- ❖ Regulation well accepted, awareness of risk of firewood building.

# Why we chose to prohibit only out-of-state firewood in the first year.

- ❖ EAB not yet found in WI.
- ❖ Intensive notification efforts manageable.
- ❖ Disposal of confiscated wood more manageable.
- ❖ Provided year to educate campers of change in policy.



# Increased urgency for tightened regulation of firewood.



- ❖ Regulation initially proposed in response to emerald ash borer (EAB) in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.
- ❖ EAB found in Chicago area in July 2006, 50 miles south of our border.

# 2007 Second year of regulation

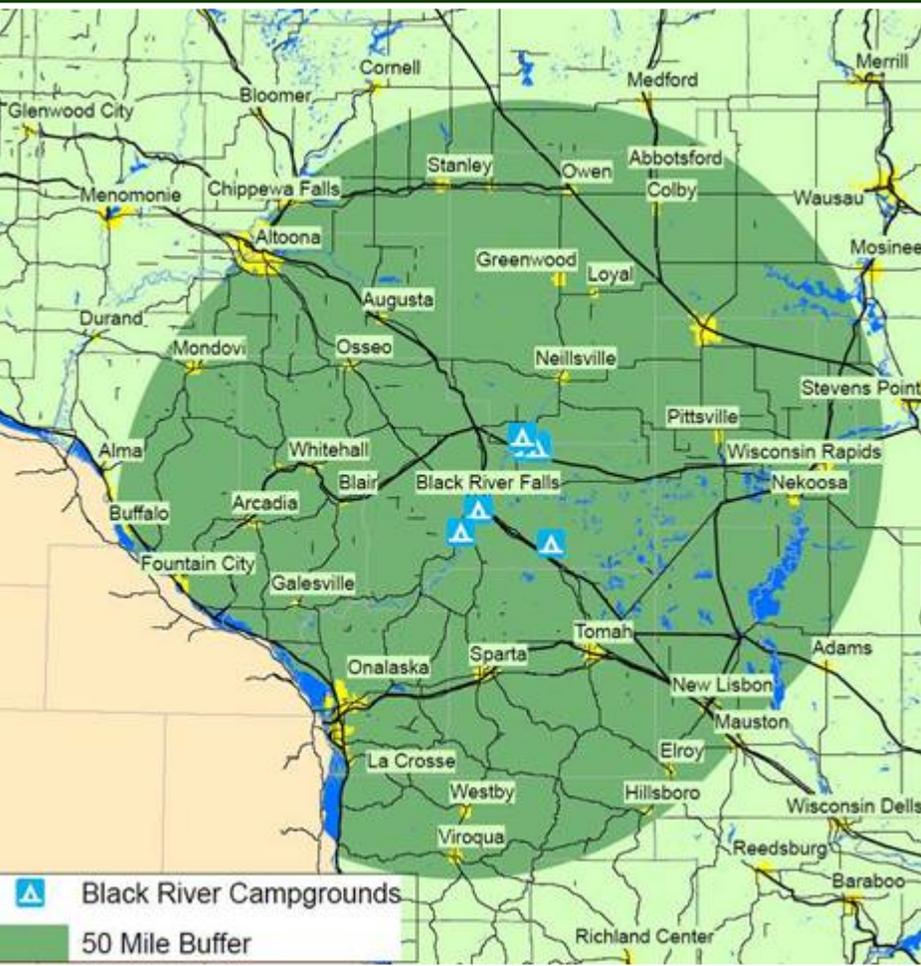
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- ❖ Further restricted allowable firewood to that harvested from within 50 miles of where it would be used & within state.
- ❖ Allowed solid dimensional lumber scraps that were not treated, painted or contained adhesives.
- ❖ All campers notified.
- ❖ Regulation more controversial.
- ❖ More public awareness stimulated.

# 2007 Regulation of Firewood on DNR Lands

On department lands, no person may possess firewood that originates from greater than **50 miles** from the campground on that property where the wood would be used, or the property itself if there is no campground, or from outside the borders of the state of Wisconsin.

**Firewood from sources approved by the DATCP is allowable.** Firewood includes all wood, processed or unprocessed, meant for use in a campfire.



Black River State Forest  
Range of Allowable Firewood

# Why we chose to limit allowable firewood to that from within 50 miles.

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- ❖ To exclude pests and diseases not yet established locally.
- ❖ To contain infestations by reducing distance the vector, firewood, moves.



# 2007 results

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- ❖ 2,026 bundles of firewood have been confiscated at state campgrounds.
- ❖ Enforcement may be more patchy than we like, commitment for the regulation by the property manager is crucial.

# Handling Confiscated Wood

- ❖ Clear, 4mil plastic bags, doubled, contain adult EAB that might emerge.
- ❖ Small amounts can be burnt immediately or in fall after adult EAB emergence.
- ❖ Use firewood for winter activities, ex. candle-light ski warming fires.
- ❖ Chip large amounts.



# Public notification and education

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- ❖ One of the most important aspects of the firewood regulation is that it gets the public's attention.
- ❖ When they are camping they are thinking about firewood. When they see the state properties taking this step they think  
"it must be serious."



# Targeted public notification

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- ❖ **130,000 campers reminded not to bring firewood in 2007: during reservation process, in confirmation and a separate postcard.**
  - **no cost for notification in reservation process**
  - **\$0.24/card for mailing + cost of printing**
- ❖ **250,000 firewood alerts sent with snowmobile and ATV registration.**
  - **cost to copy alert, no cost for inclusion in mailing**
- ❖ **35,000 postcards to out-of-state property owners, 3,600 postcards to out-of-state hunters.**

# General public notification

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- ❖ 2006 radio spots on 12 Chicago stations prior to Memorial Day and 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekends
  - **\$ 40,000**
- ❖ 2007 radio spots across WI for 15 weeks in summer Mon-Sat.
  - **\$ 130,000**
- ❖ Website and toll-free information line.
  - [emeraldashborer.info](http://emeraldashborer.info)
  - 1-800-462-2803

# Public education

- ❖ Used EAB as “poster child” but other pests or diseases could also be used, oak wilt, ALB, Sirex woodwasp.

**Firewood Alert**

You can help reduce spreading pests and diseases in Wisconsin forests, parks and neighborhoods by being careful about moving firewood.



Buy or use firewood cut from local sources. It's less likely to spread a new pest or disease.

If moving firewood within the state, use your supply by April or within 2 weeks of moving it. Insects and diseases are active during the spring and summer.

Don't buy or bring firewood from Michigan, where the emerald ash borer has already killed millions of trees.

Insects, like the gypsy moth, can also move around on outdoor equipment and recreational vehicles. Inspect them for egg masses and caterpillars.



Don't give pests and diseases a free ride. Due to the threat of emerald ash borer, Wisconsin DNR now prohibits the movement of out-of-state firewood into State Parks and other recreational areas managed by DNR.

For more information about invasive species and the harmful effects from moving infested firewood, visit these Web sites:  
[gypsymoth.wi.gov](http://gypsymoth.wi.gov) [emeraldashborer.info](http://emeraldashborer.info)  
[dnr.wi.gov/invasives/firewood](http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/firewood) or call 1-877-303-WOOD (9663)



**DON'T DESTROY the things You Love**



Thousands of Oaks killed by Oak Wilt



20 million Ash killed by Emerald Ash Borer



**Moving Firewood**  
insects and diseases  
**KILL TREES**  
Please...  
buy firewood  
where you



# Following the state lead...

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- ❖ 6 WI counties regulate firewood on County property
- ❖ The federal forest in WI regulates ash firewood.
- ❖ ~80% of private campgrounds visited during EAB survey were regulating firewood coming onto the property.

# Certifying Firewood: ATCP 21.20

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- ❖ Optional certification to allow certified dealers wood to go onto any DNR land.
- ❖ Treatments
  - Heat to 160 °F in center for 75 minutes
  - Debarked to ½ inch
  - Wood aged 2 years
  - Wood fumigated
- ❖ Firewood from out of state OK if treated to specifications within WI (DATCP can't inspect facilities out of WI).

# Research supporting firewood regulation

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- ❖ FS scientists tested efficacy of double bagging wood in containing emerging adult EAB. No escapees!
- ❖ DNR staff cooperating with FS Wood Products Lab and Un. of MN staff to determine minimum treatment to achieve lethal temperatures for EAB within the wood depth it inhabits. Results expected in early 2008.

# Issues to consider

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- ❖ An effective firewood program must involve state & federal agencies, Tribes, industry etc. Organize early.
- ❖ Potential effect on tribal off reservation gathering rights, involve tribes early.
- ❖ Supplying firewood, involve firewood dealers, trade regulation agency.
- ❖ Disposal of confiscated firewood.
- ❖ Public education crucial.



Any Questions?