

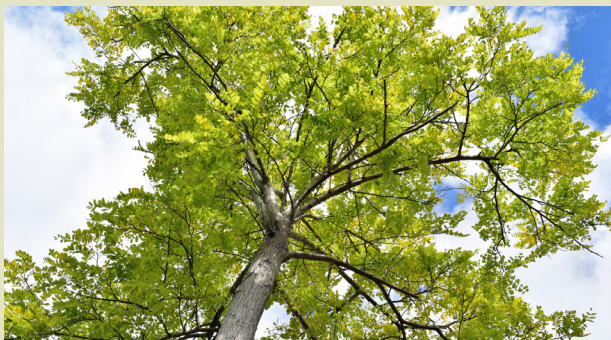
new area. Keep in mind that there may be additional regulations or quarantines in place that would further limit the movement of firewood. Retailers should be sure firewood purchased is local, heat treated, kiln dried, and identified as to origin. County or state of origin identification is required as part of North Dakota's emerald ash borer quarantine. Retail firewood not labeled correctly could result in a stop sale, destruction, or monetary penalties.

## Where can I find local firewood?

NDDA has partnered with Firewood Scout ([www.firewoodscout.org](http://www.firewoodscout.org)) to set up a firewood finder for North Dakota residents and travelers to easily find local firewood or certified firewood.

## Where can I find more information?

NDDA maintains a firewood webpage that has more information regarding EAB and the EAB regulation. This can be found here: [www.ndda.nd.gov/firewood](http://www.ndda.nd.gov/firewood). Other great resources include [www.dontmovefirewood.org](http://www.dontmovefirewood.org) and [www.hungrypests.com](http://www.hungrypests.com).



*Following regulations will help protect North Dakota's 90 million ash trees.*



Agriculture Commissioner  
Doug Goehring

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## MOVING FIREWOOD SAFELY IN NORTH DAKOTA



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## The Danger

Firewood is one of the most dangerous pathways for spreading invasive tree pests. Hundreds of millions of trees have been killed in the U.S. due to invasive tree pests such as Dutch elm disease, emerald ash borer, chestnut blight, spongy moth and Asian longhorned beetle. Even pests that are native to one state can have catastrophic effects on the forest in another. While you may look at a piece of firewood and see no evidence of holes, eggs, or insects, these things can be hard to spot. For example, a spotted lanternfly egg mass looks like a smear of mud, and eggs of some insects or spores of a fungus may be smaller than the head of a pin.

## Regulations

In January of 2020, North Dakota implemented an emerald ash borer (EAB) quarantine following the repeal of the federal quarantine. The quarantine was implemented to protect North Dakota's estimated 90 million ash trees. Ash trees make up nearly 70% of all tree canopy in North Dakota, a quarter of the windbreaks, and more than 40% of trees in communities. Emerald ash borer has killed hundreds of millions of trees in the U.S.

The EAB quarantine, codified in NDAC 7-04-04, regulates articles that are known pathways for EAB, including firewood. All firewood (not including coniferous, such as pine and



*Top: Live emerald ash borer larva under bark of ash log. Credit: Charles Elhard, North Dakota Department of Agriculture (NDDA). Bottom: Emerald ash borer adult. Credit: NDDA.*

spruce) is regulated under this quarantine, not just ash. Firewood from regulated areas outside of North Dakota as well as regulated areas within the state are prohibited from being moved without meeting certain conditions.

## Consumers

It is always best practice to buy or gather local firewood. If this isn't practical, be sure to follow state and local regulations regarding firewood movement. Firewood is restricted from entering North Dakota from regulated

areas without treatment or certification. State and national parks, forest-service-managed lands and even local campgrounds may have specific rules regarding what firewood may be brought to the campgrounds or if only locally purchased is allowed.

When purchasing firewood, look at the label for heat treatment notations or ask about the origin. This will help you decide whether the firewood is safe or not. When purchasing firewood, only buy enough to use in one season or trip. If using for heating, be sure to burn all firewood before spring when insects may emerge. To find firewood locally, check out [www.firewoodscout.org](http://www.firewoodscout.org).

## Producers and Retailers

Those wanting to produce and sell firewood should seek out information from their federal, state or local agriculture authorities regarding regulations or quarantines on firewood prior to moving products and follow best management practices when harvesting or selling firewood.

Producers should select healthy trees for firewood, as dead or dying trees may already be infested with pests and diseases. Unhealthy trees could be chipped into mulch to reduce the risk of spreading pests. Heat treating or kiln drying firewood to 60°C or 140°F for 60 minutes is often required for moving firewood. Limit the movement of untreated firewood to 50 miles from where the firewood was harvested to reduce the spread of pests to a