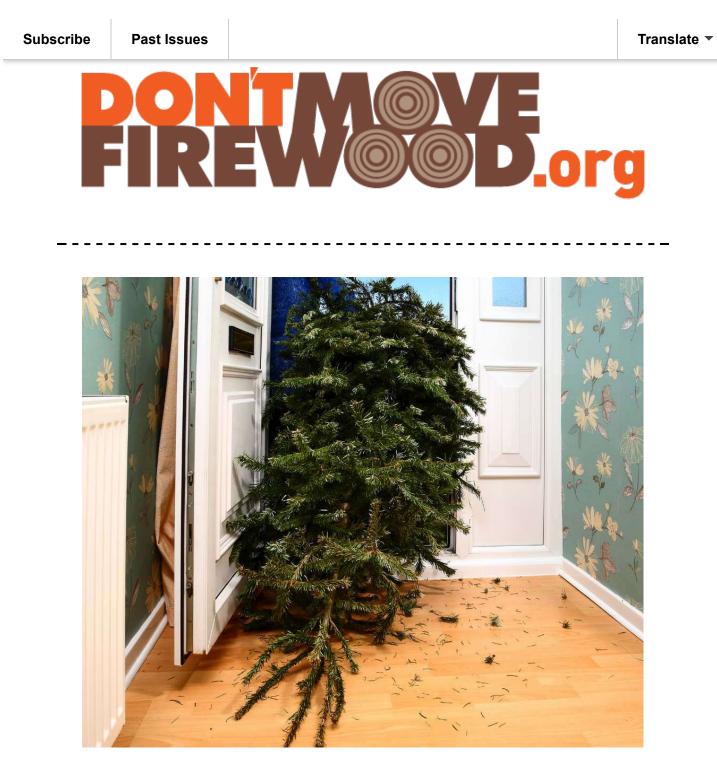




Firewood choices always matter. Check out our informational landing page for home and cabin heating!



Safe Disposal of Trees

Some of us are dreading saying goodbye, some are happy to see them go - either way, make what you do with your Christmas trees and other holiday greenery count. Spread the word and not the pests - here's how to <u>safely dispose holiday greenery</u>!



Northern giant hornet eradicated in Washington!

Three years have passed without any confirmed sightings of the northern giant hornet (*Vespa mandarinia*) in Washington State allowing the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) and the USDA to officially declare the insect as eradicated from the state. While this pest is not known to spread on firewood, it is a concerning invasive insect that poses a threat to human health, native insects, and has the potential to decimate entire bee colonies. As such, WSDA will continue to monitor for northern giant hornet. Learn more at the <u>APHIS Agency Announcement</u> or <u>Washington Dept of Ag Bulletin</u>

DMF is Hiring

Our Firewood Outreach Specialist position is now live! To reduce the firewoodassociated spread of EAB and other forest pests in the Pacific Northwest, the Don't Move Firewood team is adding a temporary (6 month) position in 2025 to help us broaden and strengthen our outreach presence in this region. For more details and to apply, click <u>here</u>. *Applications received by COB January 27 2025 are preferred, however, note that applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.*



This is our new newsletter, **so if you received it from a colleague** forwarding you this email and are interested in subscribing to receive it monthly, **please use our sign-up portal found** <u>here</u>!

Regulation and Pest Updates

We keep track of all USA state-based firewood-relevant regulations and outreach statuses in our highly detailed, technical report known as the <u>Firewood Comparison</u> <u>Report</u>. We are pleased to say a new, up-to-date version of this professional resource is now available! The Firewood Comparison Report only covers state-based information (i.e., not federal lands, not Canada, etc.) and is designed for professionals in the field rather than the average reader. Remember to send anyone looking for a more public-friendly narrative of each state and province to our easier to read, cleanly summarized, and all-inclusive of USA, Canada, and Mexico <u>Firewood Map</u>!

Learning More

Here at DMF, we are always considering the effectiveness of our outreach at driving behavior change for the benefit of nature and humans. That means considering social science research. We are happy to share our own findings (e.g., <u>Strategies Identified</u> to <u>Reduce the Spread of Forest Pests on Firewood</u>) as well as others'. There's always something to learn! Here's two seminal papers on best practices for outreach and education towards reaching a behavior change goal.

Stop Raising Awareness Already, Stanford Social Innovation Review

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Forest Pests In the News

<u>Trained dogs can sniff out invasive pests in forests</u> (SLF) *earth.com; Jan 3, 2025*

<u>Texas A&M Forest Service warns against moving firewood due to risk of tree killing</u> <u>pest</u> (EAB) *KTRE9; Jan 3, 2025*

Forest pest monitoring and early warning using UAV remote sensing and computer vision techniques Scientific Reports; Jan 2, 2025

Find out where your firewood comes from to prevent the spread of invasive pests *AP; Dec 24, 2024*

<u>Maryland reaches new milestone for in biocontrol efforts for eastern hemlock</u> <u>conservation</u> *MD Dept. of Agriculture; Dec 19, 2024*

<u>Nearly \$335M in USDA grants to support private forestland management and conservation</u> <u>Morning AgClips; Dec 17, 2024</u>

<u>Oaks under threat from invading insects, warming temperatures, disease</u> *Michigan Farm News; Dec 16, 2024*

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This newsletter is produced by staff of The Nature Conservancy's Forest Pest and Pathogen Program.

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