

Protecting Florida

Almost every month, a new exotic insect, plant, or plant pathogen is detected in Florida.

Some of these exotic invaders turn out to be serious agricultural pests, such as the Mediterranean fruit fly, brown citrus aphid, Asian citrus psyllid, small hive beetle, citrus leaf miner and chili thrips. Others, such as the cactus moth *Cactoblastis cactorum*, attack native plants in natural areas.

Since 1986, over a 150 new species of insects and mites have been collected in Florida and are considered established.

Other states are faced with their own challenges due to plant pests and diseases – including Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois are currently battling wood-boring insects. Many of these pests can be spread from state to state by the transport of infested firewood.

To help protect Florida from these damaging pests and diseases, DPI established a firewood and unprocessed wood product regulation in August 2010. These regulations serve to protect our trees and natural environments, as well as forest and wood material industries within our state.

You can help stop the spread of exotics invasive species. When you travel, please don't transport firewood.

How You Can Help

There are many things you can do to help. The most important and easiest of these is to leave your firewood at home. This will prevent accidentally transporting pests to other locations.

Please take these steps :

- ✓ Please use local sources of firewood.
- ✓ If you have already brought firewood from home, please do not take it back home and do not leave it - **BURN IT!**
- ✓ Please do not take any local firewood home from the campgrounds.



Florida's List of Most Wanted

Here are some of the pests currently in other states that could spread to Florida through firewood move-

Asian longhorned beetle

- Attacks and weakens healthy hardwood trees.



Emerald ash borer

- Kills most varieties of healthy ash trees.



European wood wasp

- Infects many species of pine trees with fungus.



Sudden oak death

- Weakens and kills oak trees.
- Rhododendron is a common host.



Redbay ambrosia beetle

- Infects and kills redbay trees with fungus within months.



For more information on where these pests are located visit:
<http://pest.ceris.purdue.edu/pestlist.php>

• DO NOT TRANSPORT FIREWOOD FROM OTHER STATES • DO NOT TRANSPORT FIREWOOD FROM OTHER STATES •

5B-65 Firewood Rule

Protecting Florida's forests and natural areas:

On August 7, 2010 Florida established a firewood and unprocessed wood product regulation to prevent the introduction of unwanted wood pests and disease pathogens into Florida. This rule was developed as a collaborative effort between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, other states and multiple industries.

Some details of these regulations include:

- ✓ Non-commercial shipments of regulated articles entering the state via state agriculture interdiction stations without certification will be allowed entry only after they are inspected and issued documentation.
- ✓ Commercial shipments of regulated articles will be allowed entry into Florida with a permit.
- ✓ Commercial shipments of regulated articles moving intrastate are required to be accompanied by a certificate of inspection.
- ✓ No locally produced firewood can enter Miami-Dade county unless treated and certified by Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Plant Industry.
- ✓ Locally produced or harvested firewood or unprocessed wood products are exempt if the distribution point is within 50 miles of its origin
- ✓ For rule specifics visit:

www.FreshFromFlorida.com/pi/firewood

Contact Information

If you would like more information regarding exotic invasive species in Florida, please contact:

Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey Program
Florida Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Division of Plant Industry
1-888-397-1517
www.FreshFromFlorida.com/pi/caps

Plant Protection and Quarantine
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
United States Department of Agriculture
www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq



Asian longhorned beetle

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Redbay ambrosia beetle: Mike Thomas, FDACS-DPI

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PROTECT the trees you love



DO NOT TRANSPORT FIREWOOD FROM OTHER STATES

