

Don't Move Firewood – It Bugs Me!

Let me be the first to say, Happy 4th of July!!

As many of you are getting ready to hit the road and head "up north" this week, please be cautious of what all you are bringing with you. Moving firewood around, especially longer distances, is not as harmless as it used to be. It can be one of the most common ways to spread exotic forest-damaging insects and diseases.

We've all seen what the [Emerald Ash Borer](#) (EAB) has done to our forests around here, the last thing we want to do is help spread it to new areas (contrary to popular belief - there are still parts of MI unaffected by EAB).

Have you heard of [Beech Bark Disease](#), [oak wilt](#) and sudden oak death? These are threatening our native beech and oak populations throughout the state; and one of the biggest vectors for spread is through people moving firewood. Simple solution - don't move firewood.

Potential pests to Michigan?? Well, there is the [Asian Longhorn Beetle](#) (ALB) which has been found in a neighboring state to the south, but not yet in Michigan. This is a pest that affects maple trees, and has the potential to be more damaging than EAB.

So before you go grabbing wood from your pile at home and hauling it with you, think about what you could be doing to your forests.

Instead, cut or buy wood locally! It won't cost more than a couple bucks, and you can roast marshmallows with the peace of mind that you helped stop the spread of invasives!

Enjoy the holiday weekend!

Your local forester,

Tyler Pederson

Conservation District Forester

Tuscola-Sanilac-Huron-Bay-Arenac counties

1075 Cleaver Rd. Caro, MI 48723

[\(989\) 673-8174 ext. 3](tel:9896738174)



