

Firewood Regulations in Minnesota

Firewood movement in Minnesota is regulated through state and federal pest quarantines by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA). Minnesota has an exterior Quarantine for firewood. No firewood is allowed to enter the state of Minnesota without compliance agreements and written permission from the MDA. Firewood cannot leave a pest quarantine without certification, a compliance agreement, or written permission from the MDA. Any person violating these quarantine regulations is subject to civil penalties up to \$7,500.00 per day of violation or misdemeanor penalties set forth in Minnesota Statutes Sections 18J.10 (2011) and may be subject to criminal penalties set forth in Minnesota Statutes Sections 18J.11 (2011).

What is firewood?

Firewood is defined as – ALL NON-CONIFEROUS wood in lengths less than 4 feet, for commercial or private use, split or not.

Firewood Movement

It's illegal to move uncertified hardwood firewood out of quarantined counties. Moving firewood can move harmful invasive species.

- Firewood cannot enter Minnesota from other states and Canada.
- Firewood cannot leave the emerald ash borer quarantine without Heat Treatment Certification from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.
- Firewood cannot leave the *Lymantria dispar* quarantine without out compliance and inspection.
- Firewood can move around inside of a pest quarantine.
- Firewood can move outside of a pest quarantine if it did not originate from a pest quarantine.
- If firewood is moved into a pest quarantine, it is now regulated and cannot leave the pest quarantine.

Firewood Labeling

All firewood offered for sale must have proper labeling. Certified (Figure 1.) and non-certified (Figure 2.) label must include:

- Name (person or company)
- Address
- Contact number or email
- County of harvest
- Volume/weight of firewood in bundle



Figure 2. Non-Certified Label



Figure 1. Certified Label

What is certified firewood?

- The Minnesota Department of Agriculture’s heat treatment certification means the firewood producer operates a kiln that has passed a rigorous inspection and testing process.
- Certified firewood has been heat treated, so the core of the firewood meets a minimum temperature of 140degrees for 60mins. This is the temperature threshold to ensure emerald ash borer does not survive in the firewood.
- Look for the certified safe-to-move logo at gas stations and other retail locations across the state.
- The Minnesota DNR does NOT Certify firewood. The Minnesota DNR no longer has a firewood vendor approval program.



Figure 3.Certified Logo

Firewood on DNR Lands

The Minnesota DNR makes their own rules for what wood is allowed on state lands. The following is allowed on state lands.

- Firewood purchases at a state park can be used only in the park it is purchased in.
- Firewood that has been certified by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Certified firewood may be used on any DNR lands in the state. Look for the certified safe-to-move logo on the firewood bundles when purchasing.
- If the firewood bundle is not certified, the wood must be harvested in the same county the state land is in. The county of harvest must be on the label.
- Dimensional lumber scraps that are kiln-dried, unpainted, unstained, and free of any metal or foreign substances.

Additional Information

- Minnesota DNR
 - <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/firewood/index.html>
- Minnesota Department of Agriculture Firewood
 - <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants-insects/firewood-information>
- More questions about firewood? Contact Arrest the Pest
 - <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants-insects/arrest-pest>