

# **Firewood Policy**

## **Polk County Conservation Board**

### **PURPOSE:**

To reduce the risk of accidental introduction of emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) (EAB) and other damaging forest pests into PCC recreation areas and forests through the implementation of an effective firewood policy.

### **SPECIFICS – FIREWOOD ALLOWED:**

1. In-state firewood that is not from a EAB quarantined area.
2. Untreated dimensional lumber such as scrap 2" x 4".
3. USDA certified firewood is also allowed: Bundled firewood purchased in-state at a commercial store (even from a quarantined county) can be brought in if each bundle of firewood exhibits a USDA Stamp indicating the firewood vendor has a compliance agreement with USDA. (See example of compliance agreement stamp below.) The agreement will have a unique compliance agreement number at the bottom (for example IN-012) that will be different for each vendor, but the rest of the stamp is standard.



### **SPECIFICS – FIREWOOD NOT ALLOWED:**

1. Out of state firewood.

**NOTE:** All firewood transported from or through state or federal quarantined area that is not federally or state certified as pest free. Areas currently quarantined include all or parts of **Michigan, Ohio, Virginia, Maryland, Indiana, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Minnesota, and Ontario, Canada.**

**ENFORCEMENT: Actions to respond to the discovery of firewood from out-of-state, but not a quarantined area:**

1. Ask campers to immediately burn all restricted firewood: Use discretion to provide a time period to the camper on burning the restricted firewood (not to exceed 24 hours).
2. If a camper brings out-of-state firewood that isn't from a quarantined area and doesn't agree to burn the firewood immediately, we will require them to double bag the wood turn over to the camp host/PCC staff. Refunds of camping fees or firewood are not permitted.
3. Warnings and Citations: Verbal or written warnings should be used for the majority of discoveries. If a citation is deemed necessary it should be written, under **Failure to comply to a lawful order- Interference: 719.1**

**ENFORCEMENT: Actions to respond to firewood from quarantined areas:**

1. PCC Staff will confiscate the firewood and double bag it. Staff will fill out the "Information Sheet Quarantined Firewood from a Regulated Area".
2. Refunds of camping fees or firewood are not permitted.
3. Warnings and Citations: Verbal or written warnings should be used for the majority of discoveries. If a citation is deemed necessary it should be written, under **Failure to comply to a lawful order- Interference: 719.1**
4. The Natural Resources Manager will contact Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and/or Iowa Dept of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS): He will coordinate with APHIS and/or the appropriate state department on violations involving federal or state quarantine respectively.