

Allegheny National Forest Personal Use Firewood Program

The Allegheny National Forest offers personal use firewood permits available to members of the public.

- The permit year runs from October 1 to September 30.
- Permit holders have up to a year to use a permit depending on when the permit was purchased. For example, if you purchased a permit on October 1, you would have 12 months before the permit expired. However, if you purchased the permit on August 1, you would only have about 60 days before the permit expired. Any uncut timber on the permit will not carry over to the next fiscal year.
- The Forest Service sells firewood in units of 100 cubic feet (Ccf) of solid wood. 100 cubic feet (1 Ccf) is equivalent to 0.8 cords.
- Each household may purchase no more than 10 cords (8 Ccf) per year.
- Cost for firewood is \$5.00 per cord (Ccf). You must purchase a minimum of 4 cords (3.2 Ccf) per permit for a total of \$20.00. You may purchase additional cords for \$5.00 per cord (Ccf).
- Permit holders must have the original copy of the permit in possession and have a photo ID while harvesting and transporting the firewood.
- The permit is assigned to the purchaser. The purchaser can have help, but must be present when the firewood is being harvested.

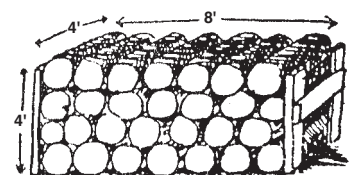
What Trees Can You Cut?

The Allegheny National Forest only permits the cutting and removal of dead and dead-standing trees. A tree is considered dead when there are no live branches present and at least 25% of the bark has fallen off. Wind thrown and down trees must also meet this criteria.

- Before you cut, look for signs of animal life in the tree. Do not cut the tree if there are signs of animal life in the tree. Animals need dead trees for food and homes for their families. In many forest areas, certain types of dead and alive trees are reserved for animals that depend on this type of habitat.
- If you are cutting a standing tree, stumps must not exceed 10 inches in height.

Measuring and Removing Firewood from the Forest

All firewood that is cut and removed from the Allegheny National Forest must be cut into pieces not exceeding 30 inches in length.



1 Cord = 128 cf or 1.28 Ccf
(4' X 4' X 8' = 1.28 Ccf)

Firewood is commonly measured in cords. A standard cord is the amount of tightly stacked wood that is 4 feet wide by 4 feet high by 8 feet long. One hundred cubic feet of wood is the amount of tightly stacked wood that is 4 feet wide by 4 feet high by 6-1/4 feet long.



SMALL PICKUP
1/4 TON

Small pickup truck (1/4 ton) - With or without racks, this truck bed will hold approximately .3 Ccf of wood.



SHORT BED PICKUP
1/2 TON

Short bed pickup truck (1/2 ton) - With or without racks, this truck bed will hold approximately .4 Ccf of wood.



LONG BED PICKUP
1/2 OR 3/4 TON

Long bed pickup (1/2 or 3/4 ton) - Without racks, this truck bed holds approximately .5 Ccf of wood. With racks, it will hold approximately .8 Ccf of wood.



STANDARD 1 TON TRUCK

Standard 1 ton truck - With high racks, this truck bed holds approximately 1.2 Ccf of wood.

Please note that trucks may be overloaded when filled with wood. Check the owner's manual to see what load weights the truck can safely haul. In addition, make sure you secure your wood.

Firewood Cutting Areas

- This map identifies the areas where you can cut firewood. The legend identifies Allegheny National Forest and private property, and areas where firewood cutting is prohibited. Other areas may be posted closed to firewood cutting such as for timber sales or at important wildlife areas.
- Firewood gathering is permitted only within 150 feet of *open* (including seasonally opened) Forest Service developed roads. These roads are designated by a standard Forest Service road number as shown on the map.
- **Opportunity Areas.** The Allegheny National Forest will occasionally direct permit holders to areas to help clean up logging debris or areas that are traditionally closed but are being opened for firewood cutting. Please call one of the district offices for details. Although the ANF will monitor the cutting in these areas, we cannot guarantee that firewood will still be available when you arrive.

Areas Where Firewood Cutting Is Prohibited

- **Designated Areas.** Firewood must not be collected within 200 feet of wilderness areas; wilderness study areas; national recreation areas; research natural areas; scenic areas; remote recreation areas and national historic sites. These areas are identified on the map.
- **Timber Sale Areas.** Cutting firewood in open timber sale areas is prohibited. These areas are under contract and contain contractual obligations designed to protect the purchaser and the Forest Service. Timber sales are easily identified by paint markings on the trees. However, these areas may be opened for firewood cutting upon conclusion of the sale. For additional information, please check with the Allegheny National Forest district office where the sale is located.
- **Trees marked with paint.** Any standing timber on the forest that is marked with paint is prohibited from firewood gathering. These trees may be painted to mark a boundary or are part of a research area.



- **Near streams, floodplains and wetlands.** Firewood must not be collected if a tree is:
 - ◆ Within 10 feet of stream channels.
 - ◆ Within 200 feet of trout streams, remote trout streams and Class A trout streams (identified on the map in blue).
 - ◆ Within 25 feet of wetlands, including springs and seeps.
 - ◆ Within 100 feet of vernal pools. Frogs and salamanders use the downed wood for habitat.
- **Closed Roads.** Some forest roads are closed to reduce road maintenance costs, prevent soil erosion or protect wildlife habitat. These roads are commonly closed to vehicle traffic with gates or barricades.
- **Other Areas.** On occasion, the Forest Service will identify areas where cutting firewood will not be compatible with specific resource objectives. These areas will be signed and should be easy to identify on the ground. These areas may change year to year.

Local, county, and state law enforcement officials have authority to check and enforce Forest Service regulations.



Healthy Forests Are Important For Everyone

Why Is Dead Wood So Important? Forest managers want to keep certain amounts of standing and down deadwood on the forest. Logs and other dead, woody material found on the forest floor provide homes for many animals and insects. As the wood decomposes, important nutrients are released into the soil that keeps the land healthy and productive.

Fish depend on woody debris too. In streams, creeks and lakes, dead wood creates pools where fish can rest and spawn. As the wood decomposes, it also enriches the water by providing the basis for aquatic food chains.

Standing dead trees (snags) are important to the forest because they provide homes for wildlife, many of which help control insect and rodent populations. Standing trees that contain visible cavities, hollows or nests are not to be cut.

In some forest areas, there is a scarcity of dead wood. In these areas, wildlife species – like the pileated and downy woodpeckers, flying squirrels, raccoons and salamanders – may decline because the depleted areas no longer provide the shelter and good food sources such as ants and grubs which are necessary for their survival.

Help Prevent the Spread of Invasive Species

National forests are threatened by non-native insects that can kill large numbers of trees. Firewood may contain non-native insects and plant diseases. It is illegal to bring firewood into the Allegheny National Forest from other areas or to transport firewood from an infested area to another area because it may spread pest insects and diseases.

There are restrictions on bringing firewood to the ANF and for moving firewood to any state that surrounds Pennsylvania. For example, the emerald ash borer, an introduced insect from Asia, has killed millions of acres of ash trees and continues to spread. It can be transported long distances on firewood and once transported into new areas, this insect can become established and kill trees. To help prevent the spread of invasive species:

- Leave firewood at home – do not transport it to other areas.
- Use firewood from local sources. The Allegheny National Forest has a ban on firewood from outside Elk, Forest, McKean and Warren Counties.
- If you have moved firewood from outside the area and brought it on to the Allegheny National Forest, burn all of it before leaving your camping area.
- Obey the state and federal quarantines which prohibit movement of ash and oak products and all hardwood firewood into Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.
- Obey all state and federal restrictions.

We need your cooperation to stop the spread of these insects!

Firewood Cutting Safety Tips

- **NEVER** cut firewood alone.
- **NEVER** fell trees in high winds.
- **NEVER** operate a saw when under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or when fatigued.
- **NEVER** approach a chainsaw operator from behind.
- **ALWAYS** keep pets and children away from the work area. When cutting a standing tree, keep helpers and vehicles out of the reach of the falling tree. We recommend staying at least 150 feet away.
- **ALWAYS** keep the chain sharp.
- **ALWAYS** wear the proper safety clothing and equipment. For example, a hardhat, chaps, safety glasses and hearing protection.

Additional Information

Allegheny National Forest Phone: 814.723.5150
Supervisor's Office Located off of U.S. Route 62
 4 Farm Colony Drive in North Warren
 Warren, PA 16365

Bradford Ranger District Phone: 814.362.4613
 29 Forest Service Dr. Located at the junction of State
 Bradford, PA 16701 Route 59 & State Route 321
 South (West of Marshburg)

Marienville Ranger District Phone: 814.927.6628
 131 Smokey Lane Located on State Route 66
 Marienville, PA 16239 North of Marienville

Website: fs.usda.gov/allegheny

Nondiscrimination Statement

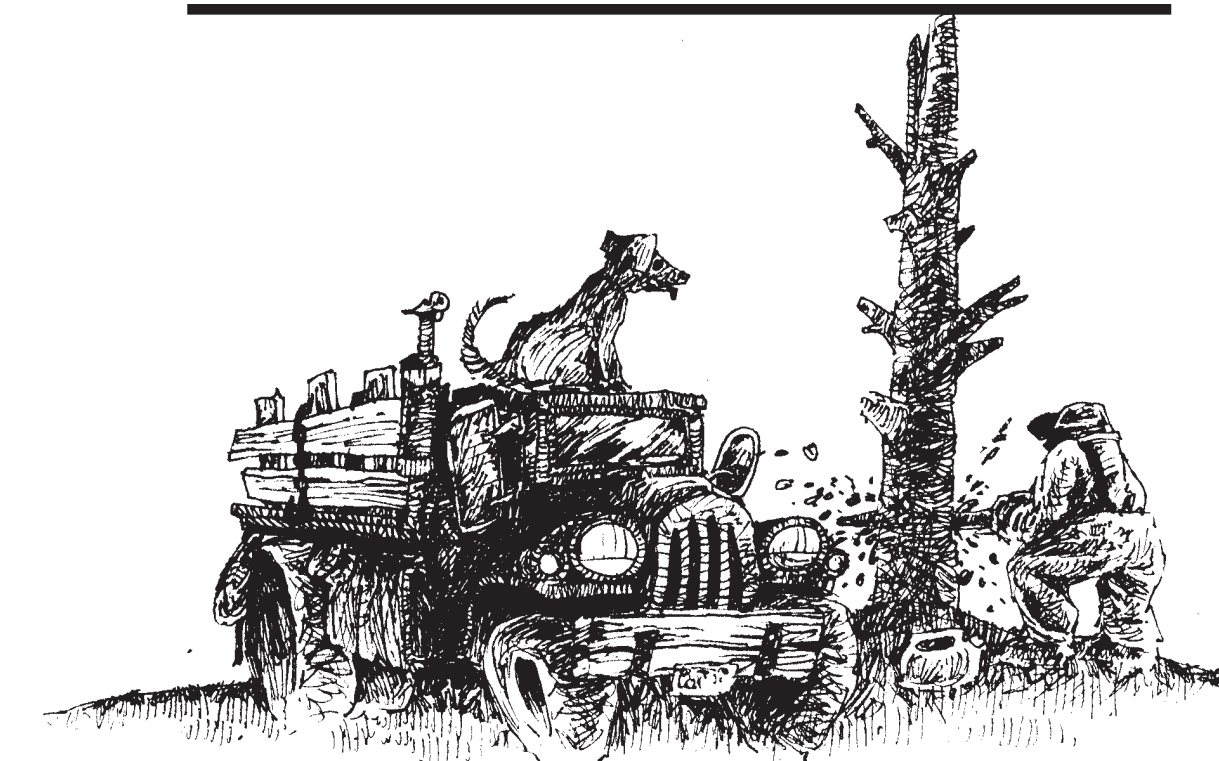
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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Personal Use Firewood



Allegheny National Forest



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service



DO NOT CUT TREES WITH:



TRUNK HOLES OR
VISIBLE NESTS



BROKEN TOPS



PAINT MARKS



WILDLIFE SIGNS



ANY OTHER TREE
PROHIBITED BY PERMIT

