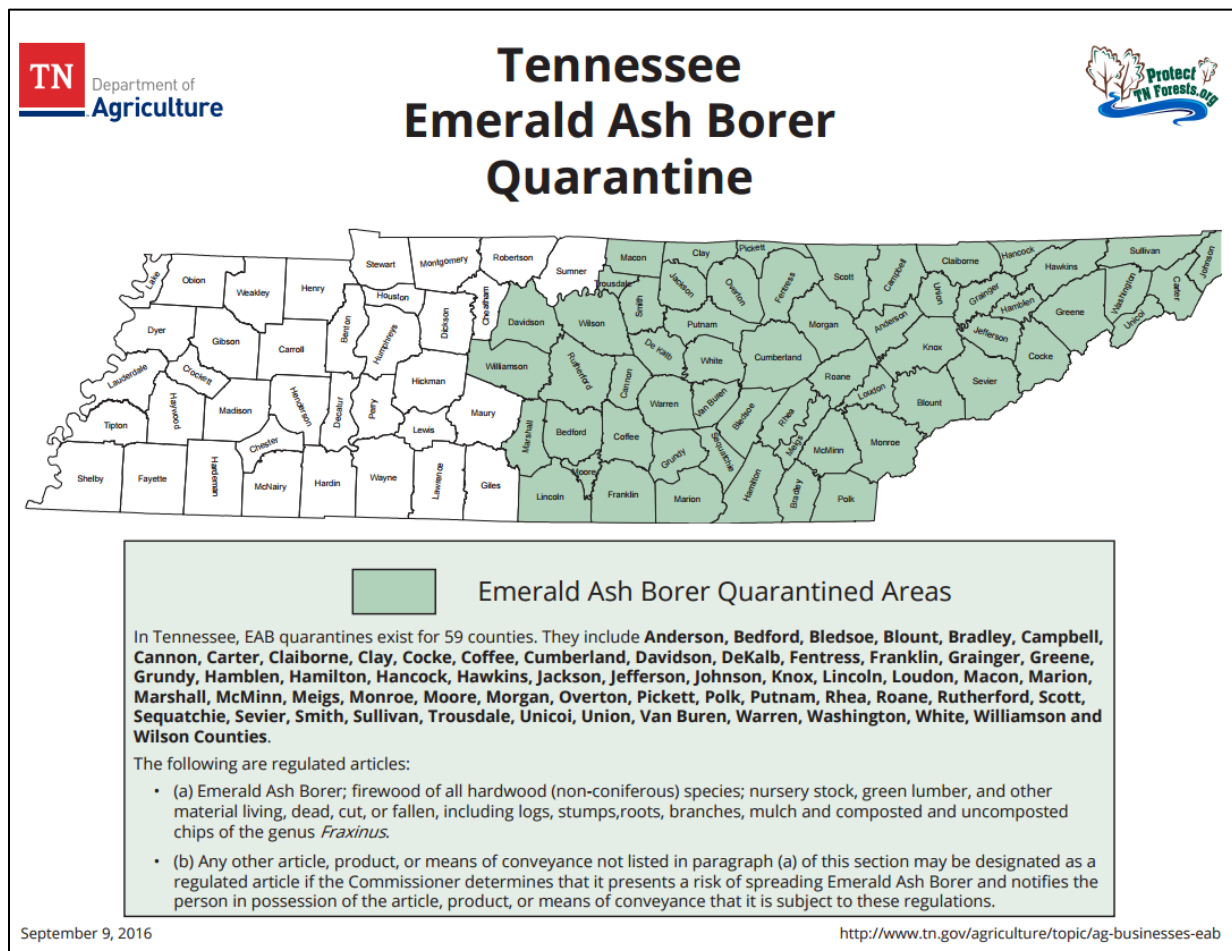


Tennessee Forest Health Highlights 2016

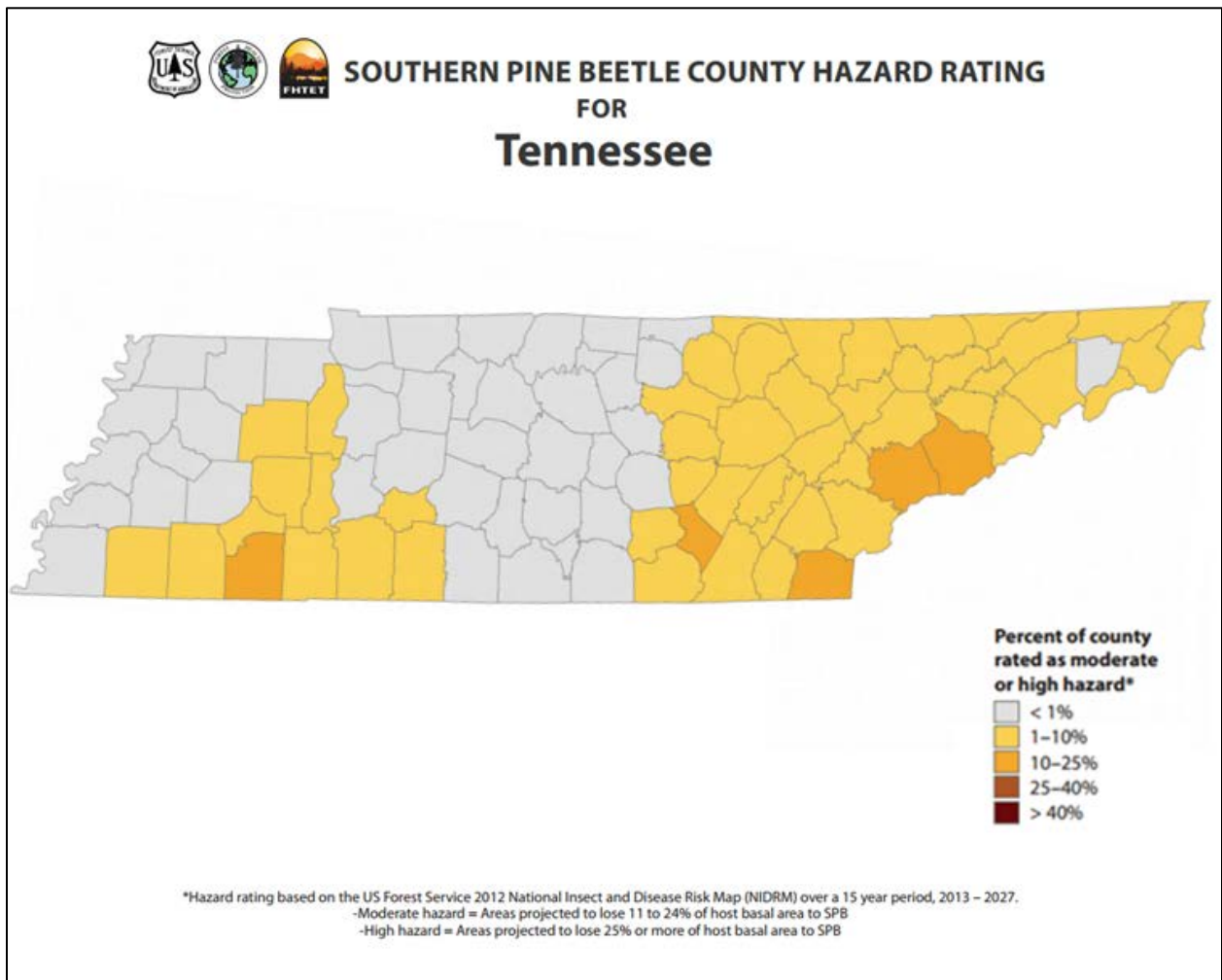
Emerald ash borer: USDA-APHIS, Tennessee Department of Agriculture deployed an estimated 959 traps statewide this spring. No regulatory traps were deployed in quarantined counties. Eleven new counties have been quarantined due to detection of EAB this year: De Kalb, White, Cannon, Warren, Van Buren, Bedford, Moore, Coffee, Grundy, Sequatchie, and Marion Counties. Public information meetings will be planned in each area that came under quarantine.



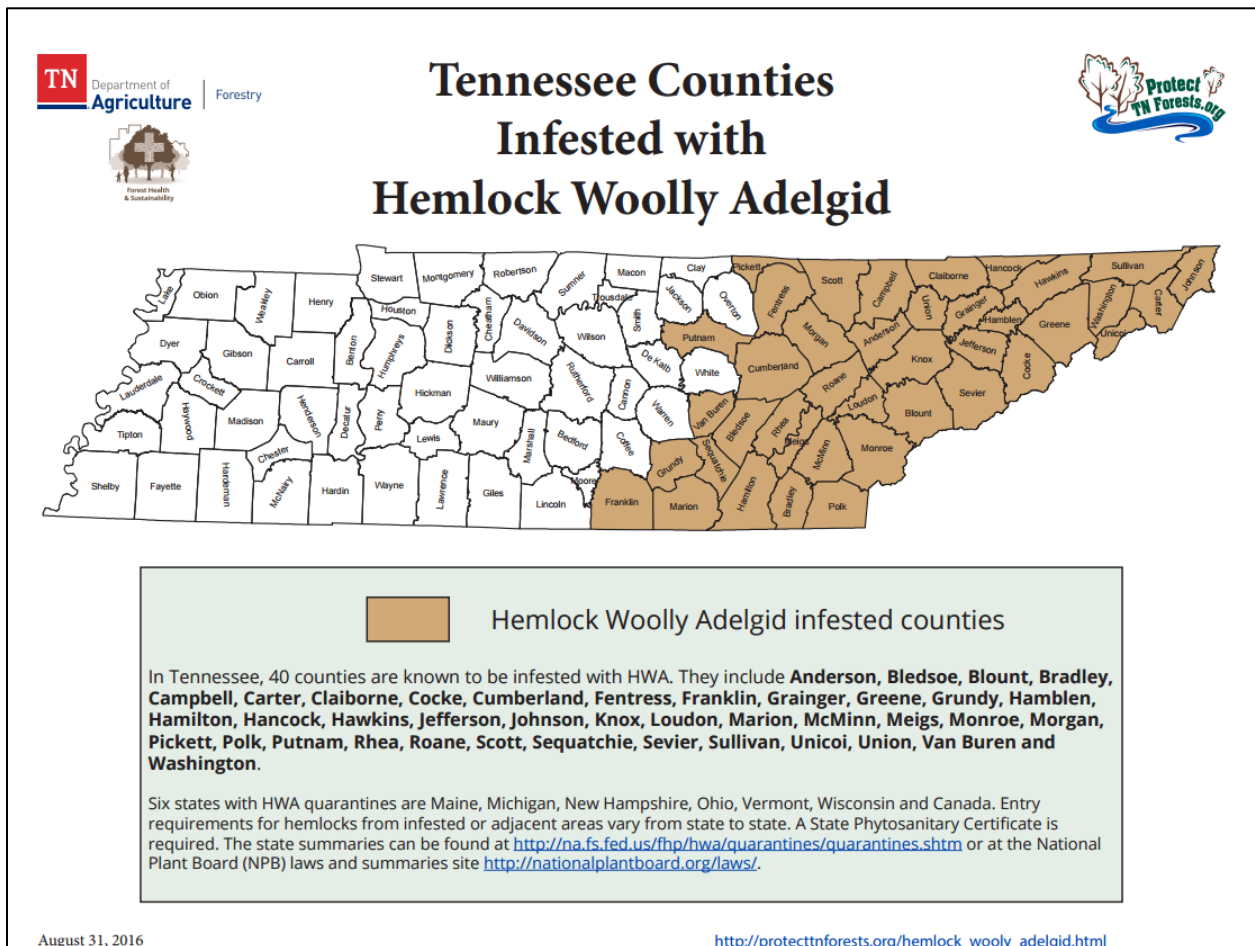
TDF Forest Health Unit is working with University of Tennessee and the Army Corps of Engineers in Smith County to release three species of parasitoid wasps that prey on EAB. During this first year, TDF personnel released 25,856 wasps in 24 release events at this site; which is one of several areas throughout the infested zone of TN where EAB parasitoids are being released. Recovery operations will be conducted and monitoring traps will be installed each

year to test the efficacy of the release and the success of the predation. TDF is actively looking for more appropriate release sites.

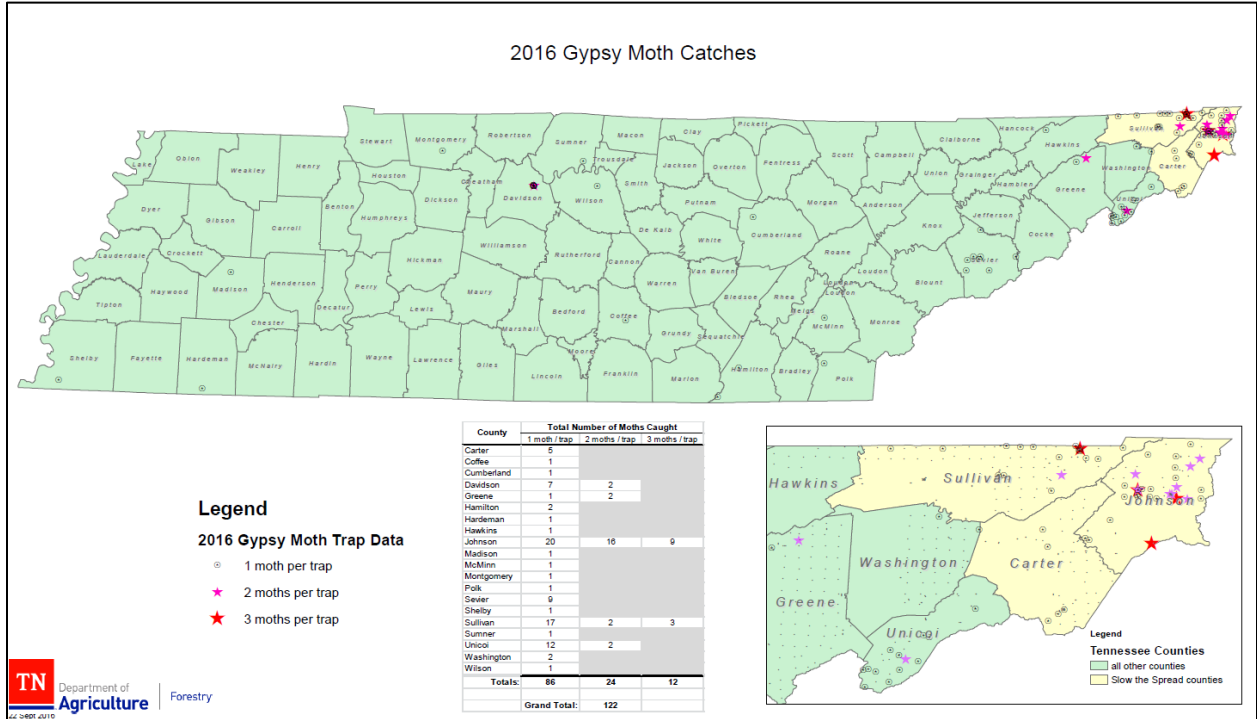
Southern pine beetle & other bark beetles: No SPBs were detected in the 8 monitoring traps deployed by TDF personnel April 2016 in Chester, Wayne, Marion, and Rhea Counties. SPB populations were reported on the rise but no major outbreaks have been detected. Fall drought and wildfires in Tennessee may potentially increase 2017 SPB populations.



Hemlock woolly adelgid: TDF was awarded a USFS grant to continue a hemlock woolly adelgid strike team. This team's goals are to chemically treat HWA on public lands, provide support to the HWA predator beetle program, and facilitate events sponsored by the Tennessee Hemlock Conservation Partnership. This grant was awarded in cooperation with the Kentucky Division of Forestry, Forest Health Unit to treat and manage HWA on a regional scale. In 2016 the team treated 484 acres on state property, installed one field insectary, and facilitated three private landowner HWA workshops. Two additional counties were confirmed as infested; Meigs and Bradley.

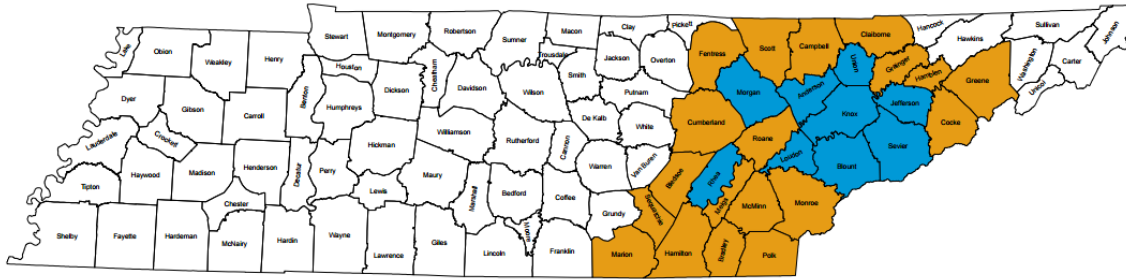


Gypsy moth: TDA, USFS, and ORNL installed 8,274 gypsy moth traps statewide this year. 122 gypsy moths were captured in 20 counties. Even though this number is up from 2015 captures, there are no active infestations of gypsy moths in Tennessee. Each location where a moth was captured will be intensively trapped in 2016 to ensure no breeding populations are present.



Thousand Cankers Disease: 191 walnut twig beetles were trapped this year. The greatest numbers of beetles were found in Knox County near Jefferson City, TN at 109 beetles. No new counties were added to the quarantine this year.

Tennessee Thousand Cankers Disease Quarantine and Buffer Regulated Areas



Thousand Cankers Disease Quarantined Areas
Anderson, Blount, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Morgan, Rhea, Sevier and Union counties.

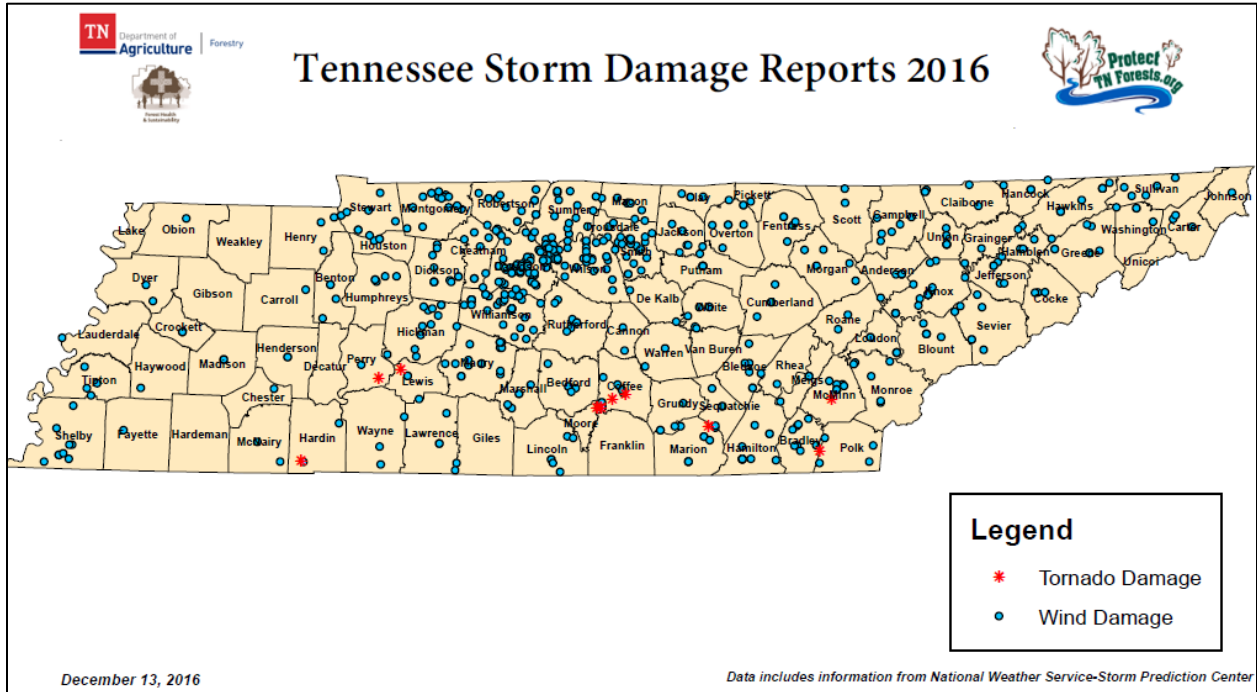
Citizens in these counties cannot move walnut tree products and hardwood firewood outside the quarantined counties.

Thousand Cankers Disease Buffer Regulated Areas
Bledsoe, Bradley, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Cumberland, Fentress, Grainger, Greene, Hamblen, Hamilton, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Polk, Roane, Scott and Sequatchie counties.

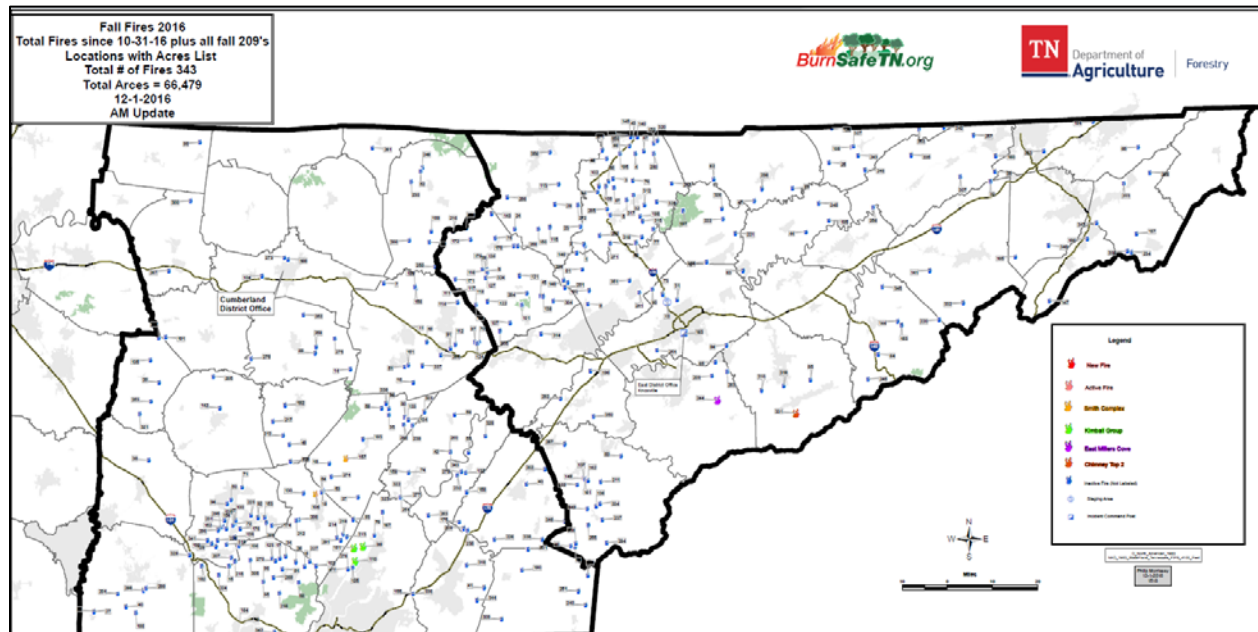
Citizens in buffer counties/areas can move walnut tree products and hardwood firewood within buffer counties, but not outside. Product can also be moved into a quarantine county, but not taken back out.



Weather Related Events: Across the state, 636 reports of wind damage and 10 reports of tornado damage were reported by the National Weather Service. TDF personnel reported significant storm damage over 11 counties totaling 2,446 acres.



Fire: As in most of the southeast, Tennessee experience extreme fire behavior this fall. Fire reports totaled 1,434 across the state and approximately 44,090 acres was burned. Future assessments will focus on determining the extent and type of impact this season's fires has had on Tennessee forests.



Forest Health Trends:

- Crapemyrtle scale has been recorded in six counties in Tennessee; Shelby, Tipton, Fayette, Gibson, Madison, and Wilson.
- In August, TDF completed a site assessment at Johnson University in Knox county regarding wide spread mortality of pin oaks, the primary mature tree on campus. Prior to the site assessment the campus grounds crew confirmed the cause to be Bacterial Leaf Scorch (*Xylella fastidiosa*) through an ELISA kit test. TDF recommended tiered removals based on rate of decline across campus. This and other examples across the state stress the vulnerability of planted pin oaks to BLS in Tennessee.
- The majority of the state experienced significant drought conditions this fall. Drought conditions were more severe in the eastern portion of the state, specifically along the Cumberland Plateau.

Outreach & Education:

- Last spring, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park announced a ban on all firewood from entering the park that does not bear a certification seal from the USDA or a state agency as heat treated firewood. Soon after the announcement, TDF spearheaded the development of a State Lands Firewood Policy committee to discuss state owned property firewood policies. This committee is comprised of representatives from TDA,

TDF, TDEC, TWRA, USDA-APHIS, and The Nature Conservancy (TNC). This year a new policy was instituted in Tennessee State Parks prohibiting the transport of outside firewood not certified to be heat treated into the parks.

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