Firewood Cutting Permits

USDA Forest Service | Hoosier National Forest | 3/2013

What is a firewood permit?

A firewood permit is the Forest Service giving permission for individuals to cut wood that is entirely on the ground on the Hoosier National Forest.

Firewood Permits are available for trees that are down in areas identified by the Forest Service within 70 feet of a road way, in closed timber sale areas designated as firewood cutting sites, special firewood areas or other management areas where a quantity of wood is available and the access and parking are reasonably good. This permit carries a $20.00 fee and is valid for a maximum of 3 months. Up to 2 cords (or 4 pick up truckloads) of wood are available with each permit. All permit sales are final and no refunds will be made.

How do I know if I need a permit?

You may **not** cut any trees on the Hoosier National Forest unless a permit is issued. Only down trees assigned on the permit are allowed to be cut. However, if you are camping on the Hoosier National Forest in a designated recreation area or dispersed campsite you are not required to have a permit to gather small amounts of firewood for your "on site" campfire.

How do I obtain a Firewood Permit?

You are required to contact a Hoosier National Forest office to request a permit. A description of the area in which you wish to cut trees that are already down is needed to determine if the permit will be made available. Prospective purchasers are encouraged to check access and wood availability before purchasing a firewood permit. Permits will be sold during normal working hours. Firewood, when cut, must not exceed 4 feet in length and cannot be used commercially.

Safety First!

Be aware to keep motorized vehicles in a safe parking area, along the shoulder of the roadway or pull off. While working you are encouraged to wear personal protective equipment and high-visibility clothing. Please be mindful to park and cut wood when conditions are dry. No winching or skidding is allowed.

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Transportation Warning:

Firewood removed from Forest Service lands must be used in the county or infested township where it was removed. According to Indiana Department of Natural Resources, if the county or township you would like to cut firewood is under EAB quarantine you will not be able to move firewood to another county or outside of the infested township in that county. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources regulates the movement of wood and wood by-products that may be affected by the EAB. You may want to check with the IDNR to locate potentially quarantined counties before purchasing a permit. For more information on the quarantine contact 1-866-NO-EXOTIC.

For more information contact:

Jason Combs, Forester
Hoosier National Forest
248 15th Street,
Tell City, IN 47586
812-547-7051



Federal relay for deaf and hearing impaired:
1-800-877-8339

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