

Forestry Emerald Ash Borer – Industry Note August 2009

Shipping Ash Lumber and Other Ash Products

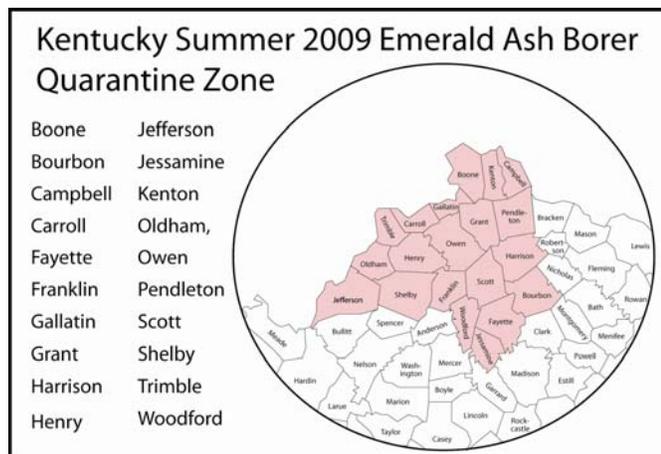
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Information contained in this fact sheet is specific for sawmill personnel and others involved in the purchase or shipping of ash logs, lumber, cants, and bolts. A **permit** or **certificate** is needed to ship ash lumber and other ash wood products that are produced in an Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine Zone. This fact sheet describes the rules for shipping and receiving ash lumber, logs, and wood chips containing ash and how to obtain permits or certificates. For specific information on firewood and logging see the references at the end of this fact sheet.

Kentucky Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine

The Emerald Ash Borer (also referred to as EAB) is a small, ½ to ¾ inch, emerald colored, winged insect that lays eggs in the bark of the branches of all species of ash trees and generally goes undetected until the trees die. EAB larvae can continue to live in the inner bark of logs and lumber with areas of bark (wane) long after the logs have been cut, sawn into lumber, or chipped, so when EAB is found in an area a quarantine is put in place to stop the spread of the infestation beyond the quarantined area. As of August 5, 2009, the EAB has been found in Campbell, Fayette, Franklin, Jefferson, Jessamine, Kenton, Owen, and Shelby Counties in Kentucky. Consequently, a state quarantine has been established for these counties and the ones surrounding them (see map). There may be additional counties added to the quarantine if other infestations are found.



Restrictions on the Movement of Ash Wood Products: Compliance Agreements, Limited Permits and Certificates

Compliance Agreements: Once a quarantine has been issued it becomes a state violation to move ash wood products out of the quarantine zone without entering into an EAB Compliance Agreement with the Kentucky State Entomologist's Office. The agreement is nothing more than a written plan that you agree to follow and is good for one year from the date issued. The document has places that describe the various parts of your plan, including such things as how are you going to keep the ash logs separated on the yard and the dates that you will receive and process your ash inventory. Once you have filled out a compliance agreement application, the Kentucky State Entomologist's Office will schedule a time for an inspection. The inspector will walk you through the rest of the process. Not all compliance agreements will include exactly the same things. They are written for each specific operation.

There are no restrictions on the movement of ash wood products **INSIDE** the Kentucky quarantine area, nor are there restrictions on the movement of ash products from outside the quarantine area to the inside of the quarantine area as long as they did not originate in a quarantined area. Ash wood products include all types of logs (saw, veneer, stave, ties, cants), wood chips that contain ash,

hardwood firewood, and lumber (green and kiln dried).

Limited Permits and Certificates: The compliance agreement is the first step in being able to move ash wood products out of the quarantine zone. The second is acquiring a limited permit or certificate for each individual shipment moving out of the quarantined area.

A limited permit can be used when shipping untreated ash wood products during the insect's non-flight season (October 1 to March 31). In this case the receiver must also have a compliance agreement (their compliance agreement will indicate how they will handle/process the wood before April 1).

A certificate can be used to ship ash out of the quarantine zone at any time of the year, to anywhere, and the receiver does not have to have a compliance agreement to receive the products. However, in order to get a certificate the wood has to be treated (sterilized) to kill any EAB larvae that might be in the shipment. Kiln drying is one of the methods that can be used to sterilize the ash. Using approved temperature settings and procedures in the kiln will kill any EAB larvae that may exist in the wood. (For a complete list of treating methods and procedures see the references below.) When a company fills out the compliance agreement form there is a place to specify which sterilization method is going to be used if you are planning on obtaining certificates for any of your shipments.

Each limited permit or certificate that is issued requires an inspection. The state entomology office asks for a 48 hour notice when requesting an inspection. A copy of the permit or certificate must be kept with the load and, wherever possible, attached to the waybill, shipping ticket, or bill of lading.

Applying for a Compliance Agreement

You may apply for a Compliance Agreement online at www.KyStateEnt.org. To the left of the page click on Emerald Ash Borer and on the following page click on the "EAB Compliance Agreement Application" link toward the top. This on-line application can be completed from the office, your home, or by visiting your local Cooperative Extension Office and asking for assistance. It may take several days to process, so plan ahead!

In filling out the application you are indicating where your ash products are going (location of your customers) and, if you are receiving ash products, how you are going to store and treat the ash to prevent any EAB infestation in the ash products from spreading. This information will form the basis of your final approved EAB Compliance Agreement, so make sure the information is correct. The Compliance Agreement Application requires the following information:

- The physical address where the ash wood products (termed regulated articles on the form) will be available for inspection. (Make sure that you provide a working phone number so the inspector can call someone to get an exact location.)
- your mailing address and phone number
- if shipping, the destination of the ash wood products (regulated articles). Include the City, State, and County.
- a list of all types of regulated articles. (Type in one or more of the appropriate products: ex., ash logs, chips containing ash, lumber, firewood)
- how the ash products (regulated articles) will be shipped (truck or rail)
- if receiving ash wood products from a quarantined area or if you are planning on applying for certificates, how will the ash products be treated (select one or more)
 - logs debarked at least ½ inch into the wood (as indicated by the removal of all inner and outer bark). This is the common method of treating logs, but of course debarking is not

practical for pulpwood or other small diameter low grade wood.

- other treatments that COULD be done include: heat treatment (160°F in the center for 75 minutes), fumigation, or kiln sterilization to a specific standard. While these treatments can be used for wood products such as lumber, firewood or high valued veneer logs, none of these treatments are generally economically feasible for many logs or for pulpwood or other low grade material.
- removing all wane from green lumber, all edges must be square with no corners void of wood. It **may be** possible for wane exceptions to be written into a compliance agreement if the logs are going to be debarked and an additional ½” of material removed before sawing into lumber.
- ash wood chips processed smaller than 1” x 1”.
- your name and date.
- click on Submit (or Reset if you need to redo the form).

Note: Hardwood firewood has different stipulations and requirements. For more information regarding firewood see the references below.

Summary

- 1) Ash wood products (logs, lumber, chips, and hardwood firewood) may move freely within the Kentucky Quarantine Zone.
- 2) If you want to ship ash wood products from within the quarantine area to an area outside of the quarantine area, then you must obtain a Compliance Agreement.
- 3) If all handling of ash materials are done outside the quarantine area (i.e. cutting, hauling, milling, etc.) nothing needs to be done.
- 4) Ash materials from outside the quarantined area may move freely into the quarantine area.

- 5) Ash wood products being hauled or shipped through the quarantine area (ex., going from a non-quarantined area through quarantined area to another non-quarantined area) will need to be under a Compliance Agreement. The load needs to stay covered and the driver can only stop for traffic conditions and refueling.
- 6) Compliance agreements are the first step in being able to ship ash wood products out of the quarantine area. You must then obtain a limited permit or certificate for each individual load.
- 7) Compliance agreements are good for one year from when they were issued.
- 8) Limited permits can be used to ship or haul untreated ash products out of the quarantine area from October 1st to March 31st.
- 9) A certificate can be used to ship or haul ash products anytime of the year to any location and the receiver does not have to have a compliance agreement to accept the load. Certificates require the ash products to be treated (sterilized).
- 10) There are several ways ash products can be treated; kiln sterilization, fumigation, removal of bark and a ½” of additional wood, removing all wane (edges and corners must be square, no areas void of lumber) from green lumber, process ash wood chips smaller than an 1” x 1”, and heat treating of firewood and logs. For specific treating requirements see references below.

For additional information:

- KYs quarantine, movement of firewood: Kentucky State Entomologist Office (859) 257-5838
- Quarantine in KY as it relates to forest industry: Forestry EAB Industry Fact Sheets at the University of Kentucky Forestry Extension web site: www.ukforestry.org
- all aspects of EAB and the quarantine in Kentucky:

<http://pest.ca.uky.edu/EXT/EAB/welcome.html>

- overall information on the emerald ash borer insect: www.emeraldashborer.info/