



Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry

# Firewood Cutting

## Cutting Information

- Firewood is standing or down dead wood.
- Firewood is for personal use only, and may not be resold.
- The blocking of drainage ditches, pipes and other structures with tops and slash is prohibited.
- Stump height of cut trees may not exceed the diameter of the stump or 12 inches, whichever is smaller.
- Removal of fuel wood by any method other than hand carrying or wheel barrow is prohibited.
- All tops and slash shall be removed 25 feet from streams, roads, trails, and boundaries.
- Normal cutting season is April 1 to the day before rifle bear season. Select areas are open January through March also—but first check availability of firewood, and access (may be limited due to snow).
- Obstructing a gate, road, trail, path, access way or road turnaround is prohibited.

## For More Information

Bureau of Forestry  
Forbes Forest District 4  
1291 Route 30, P.O. Box 519  
Laughlintown, PA 15655-0519  
Tele: (724) 238-1200 • Email: [FD04@pa.gov](mailto:FD04@pa.gov)  
Website: <http://www.dcnr.pa.gov>

In the event of an emergency, contact a state forest employee or dial 911.  
If you become lost: stop, stay calm, stay put, & dial 911.  
The further you walk the longer it will take to find you.



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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## Firewood Cutting

A permit is required to cut firewood on the Forbes State Forest. The permit can only be used by the person to whom it is issued, and must be available at all times while cutting. The cost is \$20.00 per cord.

Permits are issued for a maximum of 2 cords per permit, up to 5 cords per household per year. Permits are issued for a 30 day period, and are void if not used by the expiration date.

Firewood cutters must abide by State Forest Rules and Regulations, and provisions of the permit and this brochure. Wood is limited. Check the area for availability, before getting a permit.

Cutting may be permitted behind some locked gates in the Laurel Mountain Division with advanced notice. You must be available Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM-4:00PM, and make advanced plans with the Forest Maintenance Supervisor at 724-238-5222.

Stop in the office for a permit, or detach and mail the application, along with a long self-addressed stamped envelope and check, to the District Office.

## Areas Closed to Cutting

- Firewood cutting is prohibited in areas marked for timber sales, denoted by State Forest Timber Sale Boundary signs, or where trees are marked with paint or within fenced deer enclosures.
- Firewood cutting is prohibited in Roaring Run and Mt. Davis Natural Areas, Mt. Davis Picnic Area, Lick Hollow Picnic Area, Quebec Run Wild Area, along Linn Run Road, or at the Barron Tract.

## Application for Firewood Cutting

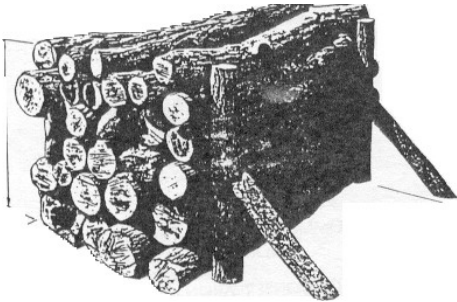
Please make check payable to 'Commonwealth of Pennsylvania'  
No extensions or refunds will be made.

Enclose a long self-addressed stamped envelope and mail to district office.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Drivers License Number \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month/Year (MM/YYYY) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact (Phone) \_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicle Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicle Color \_\_\_\_\_ License Plate Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Division (Check one): Laurel Mountain \_\_\_\_\_ Blue Hole \_\_\_\_\_ Mt. Davis \_\_\_\_\_ Braddock \_\_\_\_\_  
Cords (Check one): 1 @ \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 @ \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Permit Start Date (Please allow 2 weeks for mailing and processing) \_\_\_\_\_

# Firewood Facts

- Denser, heavier woods contain more heat than lighter woods, for a given volume.
- Wood is never completely dry. Wood dried to the normal air-dried state has a 20% moisture content .
- The best time to cut firewood is during the winter and early spring, before leaf-out, since the moisture content is lowest at this time.
- Wood should be dried as much as possible before burning (6 to 12 months). Air-dried wood has about 20 to 25% more available heat than green wood, since less heat is lost driving out moisture during burning .
- Ashes from burnt wood are alkaline and can be used as a soil amendment in gardens and lawns to raise the PH of acidic soils. One cord of heavier fuelwood will produce about 60 pounds of ashes .
- A cord of air-dried hardwood has the heating equivalent of about 1 ton of coal, 230 gallons of fuel oil, or 28,000 cubic feet of natural gas.



SPECIES	Ease of Starting	Coaling Quality	Sparks	Heat Content
BLACK LOCUST	POOR	EXCELLENT	VERY FEW	29.2
HICKORY	FAIR	EXCELLENT	MODERATE	28.3
WHITE OAK	POOR	EXCELLENT	FEW	26.3
BLACK BIRCH	FAIR	GOOD	MODERATE	26.2
BEECH	POOR	GOOD	FEW	24.8
RED OAK	POOR	EXCELLENT	FEW	24.6
ASH	FAIR	GOOD	FEW	24.2
SUGAR MAPLE	POOR	EXCELLENT	FEW	23.7
RED MAPLE	GOOD	GOOD	MODERATE	21.2
BLACK CHERRY	FAIR	EXCELLENT	FEW	20.6
ELM	FAIR	EXCELLENT	FEW	20.0
YELLOW-POPLAR	GOOD	LOW	MANY	17.5
HEMLOCK	GOOD	LOW	MANY	16.5
WHITE PINE	EXCELLENT	POOR	MODERATE	14.6

*\*This chart shows features of different woods, and rates each wood according to its total heat content per cord, expressed in million BTU's.*

# Division Locations

Laurel Mountain

Blue Hole

Braddock

Mt. Davis

