



## Treatment Certificate Required to Import Canadian Firewood Into the U.S.

Effective December 15, 2008 for commercial shipments and January 1, 2009 for non-commercial or personal shipments, each shipment of firewood of all hardwood (non-coniferous) species from Canada must be accompanied by treatment certification in order to be imported into the United States. This regulatory requirement is necessary to protect U.S. forests from certain pests of hardwood that are present in Canada.

These hardwood pests include the Asian longhorned beetle, emerald ash borer, and gypsy moth. They are a serious threat to hardwood trees and have no known natural predator in the U.S.



If these pests are allowed to become established and to spread, they have the potential of destroying millions of acres of America's treasured hardwoods, including national forests and backyard trees. Asian longhorned beetle eradication efforts in the areas where the pest has become established has cost the U.S. in excess of \$269 million. Without these eradication efforts, the Asian longhorned beetle has the potential to damage such industries as lumber, maple syrup, nursery, and tourism accumulating more than \$41 billion in losses according to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

CBP has always inspected loads of firewood coming from Canada. Due to the increase in pest interceptions, on October 17, 2008, APHIS issued a Federal Order to safeguard and ensure that hardwood firewood entering the U.S. from Canada





has been heat treated at 71.1° Celsius (minimal core temperature) for 75 minutes in accordance with Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, 319.40-7(c).

The APHIS Federal Order requires each shipment of imported hardwood Canadian firewood to have the following proof of treatment:

- Commercial shipments of firewood - a treatment certificate
- Noncommercial shipments of firewood- a treatment certificate or an attached commercial treatment label

For additional information regarding the Federal Order, please contact John T. Jones with APHIS, at 301.734.8262.