

FAQ: Moving Ash from Areas Regulated for Emerald Ash Borer



What is an emerald ash borer regulated area?

Emerald ash borer regulated areas relevant to Maine are listed in our [quarantine rules](#) and/or [emergency orders](#). The areas are designated to slow the spread of emerald ash borer.

Movement of items that may spread emerald ash borer out of the regulated areas is restricted.

What is the State emerald ash borer quarantine in Maine?

To reduce the spread of emerald ash borer, a State quarantine on emerald ash borer and certain ash articles exists to regulate the movement of these articles both into the state and within the state. Complete text of the emerald ash borer quarantine regulations can be found here: <https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/01/001/001c275.docx>

The State quarantine on emerald ash borer comes under the authority of the office of the Commissioner through the Horticulture Program:

<http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/7/title7ch409sec0.html>

Which articles are regulated by State quarantine rules and emergency orders in Maine?

Regulated articles include:

- All life stages of emerald ash borer,
- Rooted ash (*Fraxinus* spp.) for planting (not mountain-ash),
- Hardwood firewood that has not been certified heat treated,
- Ash roundwood (logs, pulpwood, etc.)
- Ash lumber that has not been heat treated.

Some of these cannot be moved out of a regulated area under any circumstances. Others can be moved, but only under a valid State issued compliance agreement. Measures that must be followed to allow movement outside the regulated area will be listed within the compliance agreement.

Which areas in Maine are currently regulated under the State quarantine rules?

In southern Maine, the areas under quarantine include all of York County, all of Cumberland County, and the following towns in Oxford County: Brownfield, Denmark, Fryeburg, Hiram, and Porter. In northern Maine, the quarantine area includes the following towns in Aroostook County: Allagash, Caswell, Connor Twp, Cross Lake Twp (T17 R5 WELS), Cyr Plt, Eagle Lake, Fort Kent, Frenchville, Grand Isle, Hamlin, Madawaska, Madawaska Lake Twp (T16 R4 WELS), New Canada, New Sweden, Saint Agatha, Saint Francis, Saint John Plantation, Sinclair Twp (T17 R4 WELS), Stockholm, T16 R5 WELS, T16 R6 WELS, Van Buren Cove Township (T17 R3 WELS), Van Buren and Wallagrass.

State quarantine rules and a map of the quarantine area can be found at www.maine.gov/eab.

What will change in Maine now that there is no longer a Federal emerald ash borer quarantine?

The areas outside of Maine with emerald ash borer previously regulated under Federal quarantine rules are currently covered by State quarantine rules.

Which areas outside of Maine are currently regulated under the State quarantine rules?

A full list of the area included under State quarantine rules is available [on our website](#). In the US, it includes **entire states** of Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin and any additional areas infested with emerald ash borer as determined by the state agency with regulatory authority, United States Department of Agriculture, Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service or the United States Forest Service including, but not limited to all areas [shown on this map](#). In Canada, it includes those areas regulated by the [Canadian Food Inspection agency](#).

What is an emergency order?

The Director of the Maine Forest Service can implement an emergency order to limit the spread of destructive forest pests. The authority for the order is found in Maine Revised Statutes Title 12, Section 8305. <http://legislature.maine.gov/statutes/12/title12sec8305.html>

In the case of emerald ash borer, an emergency order is used to help prevent further spread of emerald ash borer while revised quarantine rules are drafted, proposed, and adopted by the Department.

What if I plan to move ash only within the regulated area?

There are no regulations restricting the movement of ash articles while remaining entirely within a regulated area in Maine (other states and countries may have rules impacting movement of these articles). However, to reduce the spread of emerald ash borer within regulated areas, the following best management practices are recommended:

- Deliver ash wood within 5 miles of its origin; OR
- Transport ash firewood or logs to a mill or kiln after October 1 for processing before May 1 at the latest; OR
- Cut and season ash at its place of origin for 12 months before distribution; OR
- Chip ash waste material, preferably to less than 1" in at least two dimensions; AND
- In all cases, notify all recipients that there is a risk of infestation from this wood and it should be burned, chipped, sawn into lumber or heat treated by May 1 of the following year.

What if I want to move ash from a regulated area to areas outside the quarantine or emergency order area?

Within Maine, certain regulated articles may only be moved out of a regulated area under a valid compliance agreement with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. **All movement of regulated articles into unregulated areas in Maine without a valid compliance agreement is prohibited.** Movement of regulated articles out of Maine into other states or countries may be subject to additional rules and regulations.

What is a compliance agreement?

It is a legal agreement with the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry that allows for the controlled movement of regulated articles within Maine. The agreement holder must agree to terms for special handling and processing of regulated articles in order to remove or reduce the risk of spreading emerald ash borer.

Who needs a compliance agreement?

- Anyone moving regulated articles out of a regulated area.
- Anyone outside the regulated area receiving regulated articles from a regulated area.
- They are available to loggers, truckers, portable and stationary chippers, mills or other types of facilities or persons potentially handling regulated articles from the regulated area.

How can I tell if wood has been harvested within the regulated area?

You must know where the material was harvested and stored. Documentation such as Trip Tickets and Forest Operation Notification information can help. For wood harvested in Maine, the Maine Forest Service maintains a list of individuals interested in receiving a list of active harvests within the Maine regulated area. Subscribe to this list by sending an email to forestinfo@maine.gov.

How will you verify that ash isn't moving illegally?

Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry officials will conduct random checks of active harvests and records. Markets also provide additional pressure as wood processors risk loss of certification and other penalties if wood is received from regulated areas without proper compliance agreements.

Will you check firewood moving out of the regulated area?

Firewood is checked by Forest Rangers and other Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry horticulture and forestry officials. Members of the public also regularly report suspected illegal movement of firewood.

Where can I find more information about emerald ash borer?

www.maine.gov/eab is the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry's information page about emerald ash borer.

Who can I contact with questions on movement of regulated articles into or within Maine?

You can reach out to foresthealth@maine.gov or (207) 287-2431 with questions on movement of articles regulated by Maine State quarantine rules and emergency orders. For questions about moving rooted ash nursery stock, contact horticulture@maine.gov.