



European House Borer

MEDIA RELEASE



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Pine Firewood Banned

Perth residents are being advised not to collect pine firewood this winter in order to adhere to new regulations limiting the movement of pine in some metropolitan areas.

Recently-introduced regulations prohibit the movement of pine from areas where European House Borer (EHB) has been identified, to help contain and minimise the risk of spreading the destructive pest of seasoned, untreated pine.

EHB Response Director Lisa Christy said while EHB has been identified in Perth early, cooperation of residents is essential to limit unintentional spread of the pest.

“The best way to limit this spread is to prohibit the movement of untreated pine out of areas where EHB-affected material has been found,” she said.

“That’s why we’re asking people not to collect any untreated pine logs or timber in the lead up to winter and not to move any pine they may have stored.”

Any unwanted pine materials should be burned or disposed of through local waste collection or refuse sites. Before burning off, check with your local council for any burning restrictions.

Areas where EHB activity has been confirmed are classified Priority Management Zones (PMZs). All properties within 100 metres of an affected property form the PMZ.

“With the new regulations in place, it is actually prohibited to move pine out of PMZs,” Ms Christy said.

“People caught moving untreated pine from PMZs can be fined between \$500 and \$2000.”

EHB has been identified in two main clusters and a handful of isolated sites within the Perth metropolitan area since January 2004. EHB has mainly been found in dead pine trees, logs and in dead branches on living pine trees.

EHB, a destructive pest of unseasoned pine, has been found primarily in the Mundaring Hills and Ellenbrook regions, as well as in four pine plantations.

To report suspected EHB activity or for further information, please contact the Freecall Hotline on 1800 084 881 or visit www.ehb.wa.gov.au.

NOTE: Firewood should only be collected from designated CALM collection points.

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