

# Kentucky Woodland



## Timber Trespass

Timber trespass, the cutting of trees without permission, is a common problem in many rural counties. Sometimes this occurs because boundary lines are difficult to follow or nonexistent. Unfortunately, it also occurs through timber theft where timber is purposely stolen. While these problems are not new, they are receiving more attention. Recent articles in high-profile papers such as the *Lexington Herald-Leader* indicate the severity of the problem. The fact that the state is pursuing felony theft charges in a case in southeastern Kentucky is a hopeful sign that light is being shed on this problem. Trespass laws exist in Kentucky, including one specifically dealing with timber trespass. However, the problem is ongoing due to absentee ownership, the remote setting of many timber stands, and complacency by some law enforcement agencies regarding timber theft. Protect your woods by clearly marking boundaries. If you are an absentee owner, make sure you have a good inventory of your timber and have someone watching your woods.

## Firewood Watch

The emerald ash borer, a leading killer of ash trees, is poised at Kentucky's doorstep. Outbreaks in Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan are significant. One way that this devastating insect can move around is by hopping a ride on firewood as it is moved from place to place by campers and commercial firewood businesses. To help prevent an infestation in Kentucky, the Kentucky Forest Health Task Force has requested that all campgrounds ban campers from bringing out-of-state firewood into campgrounds. The Kentucky State Parks have already adopted a policy of asking campers not to bring out-of-state firewood into state parks. The Daniel Boone National Forest has indicated that it will initiate a plan to discourage out-of-state firewood movement into its campgrounds. The Kentucky Forest Health Task Force also sent all 215 private campgrounds in Kentucky posters on the dangers of firewood movement and a letter asking them to voluntarily initiate a safe firewood policy. Right now, moving firewood from one place in Kentucky to another is fine. However, bringing firewood into the state is cause for great concern.



*Emerald Ash Borer*  
Photo courtesy: David Cappaert,  
Michigan State University,  
[Bugwood.org](http://Bugwood.org)

## Dates To Remember

Don't forget to add these important dates to your calendar! Preregistration is strongly encouraged for all events.

Date:	Event:	Location:	Contact:
September 27, 2007	Tree Farmer of the Year Field Day	Hart County	859.257.7597
October 1 - 2, 2007	2007 Governor's Conference on the Environment	Fayette County	502.564.2150
October 4, 2007	2007 Northeast Kentucky Woodland Series Woodland Opportunities	Rowan County	606.784.5457
October 11, 2007	2007 Northeast Kentucky Woodland Series Woodland Pests	Elliott County	606.738.6400
October 18, 2007	2007 Northeast Kentucky Woodland Series Woodland Management	Carter County	606.474.6686
November 15, 2007	Kentucky Woodland Owners Association Board of Directors Meeting	Franklin County	606.876.3423

# News To Use

## KDF Tree Line Newsletter

In March, the Kentucky Division of Forestry's Urban and Community Forestry program revised their newsletter, *Tree Line*. The quarterly publication will highlight current news and information in the field of urban and community forestry. It is available to citizens, businesses, and government organizations across the commonwealth.

*Tree Line* will only be available in electronic format. The current newsletter will be available for download on the division's Web site, [www.forestry.ky.gov](http://www.forestry.ky.gov), under the "News and Events" section. Or, if you would like to be added to the electronic distribution list, please send an e-mail to Sarah C. Gracey at [sarah.gracey@ky.gov](mailto:sarah.gracey@ky.gov).



## UK Department of Forestry Hires New Silviculture Professor

John Lhotka came to the University of Kentucky in June 2007. His duties in the Department of Forestry will be to develop a research program that addresses issues critical to the health and sustainability of Kentucky's forests. He will also teach undergraduate and graduate courses in silviculture and forest management.



John Lhotka, Ph.D.

His primary research interests relate to understanding relationships between stand structure and seedling development. By applying these relationships, he seeks to develop regeneration approaches that meet the diverse needs and values of landowners and society. He plans to set up studies that assess how invasive species influence the establishment and growth of native hardwood species. He will also use field experiments to evaluate regeneration treatments for stands possessing invasive species and/or dense midstory canopies. An example of this research would be to test midstory removal and underplanting as a means to successfully regenerate oak in stands lacking sufficient numbers of oak seedlings. Additionally, he is interested in developing management evaluation tools that help foresters understand how a given cutting treatment may affect the post-harvest response of natural and planted seedlings. John received a Ph.D. in silviculture from Auburn University in 2006. His B.S. and M.S. degrees in forestry are from Southern Illinois University. For further information regarding his research program, please visit <http://www.ca.uky.edu/forestry/>