



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL AIR STATION
22268 CEDAR POINT ROAD
PATUXENT RIVER, MARYLAND 20670-1154

NASPAXRIVINST 6240.11F

AUG 05 2013

NAS PAXRIVINST 6240.11F

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station Patuxent River

Subj: FIREWOOD CUTTING

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5090.1D
(b) NAVFAC P-73, Vol. II; Natural Resources Management
Procedural Manual
(c) Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-25
(NOTAL)

1. Purpose. To publish procedures governing the cutting of trees for firewood or the gathering/collection of other forest products aboard the Naval Air Station Patuxent River Webster Field Annex, and Navy Recreation Center, Solomons, Maryland.

2. Cancellation. NAS PAXRIV Instruction 6240.11E.

3. Policy.

a. Per references (a) and (b), the Secretary of the Navy mandates an active and progressive forest resources conservation program, for all Naval installations with land for timber production.

b. Reference (c) requires that a reasonable charge be made to each identifiable recipient of a special government service from which a special benefit is derived, and that fees collected be identified to the program which is being operated on a self-sustaining basis. Monies generated from the sale of forest products are placed in a special fund to finance the Department of Defense Forest Management Program.

4. Background. More and more people are using wood as a supplemental source of heating fuel. In the past, wood has been made available to station personnel from storm blow downs, clearing for construction projects, and brush left from timber harvests. This instruction formalizes the installation wood cutting program.

5. Procedure.

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a. Authorized Personnel. The following persons are authorized to cut or collect firewood and other forest products onboard the station:

(1) Military personnel (Active Duty and Retired).

(2) Federal Civilian employees of NAS Patuxent River.

(3) Contractor personnel may be authorized to cut firewood in specially designated areas when adequate quantities of wood are available. Conservation Branch personnel will decide if wood quantities are adequate to grant contractor personnel authorization.

b. Permits.

(1) All persons cutting or collecting firewood or tree products such as woodchips on the station must have a firewood cutting permit. Permits will be issued on a cash-only basis at the Environmental Protection and Education Center, Building 1410, during advertised hours. All permit sales are non-refundable. Permits are issued for a specific cutting area and must be displayed on the vehicle dashboard while cutting.

(2) Unless otherwise specified, permits are valid for a period of two weeks from date of purchase. Regular permit fees will be charged on the basis of \$45 per cord. A permit for a standard pickup truck will be \$15 since it holds approximately 1/3 of a cord. Smaller vehicles with less hauling capacity will be assessed \$10 or \$5 permits. Permits may be issued for special firewood areas which vary from the above mentioned prices or conditions, and the permit fees for these areas will be set by the station forester, who can be reached by calling 757-0006 or 757-0007. Individuals are restricted to cutting up to three cords per household per calendar year, unless specifically exempted by the Conservation Branch.

c. Access. Vehicles are permitted to enter only the woodland area designated for cutting. At no time are unauthorized vehicles permitted to enter other woodland areas, forest access roads, logging roads, or fire breaks. When gate key issuance is necessary to gain access to a cutting area, the key will be returned upon completion of cutting.

d. Harvesting.

(1) Unless otherwise specified on the permit or on the

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firewood area information sheet, only trees within the designated cutting area that have previously fallen or marked may be taken. The cutting area boundary will be identified on an area map given to the firewood cutter upon purchasing a permit. The map will have a written description identifying prominent landscape features used as boundaries or will be identified in the field by two parallel lines painted diagonally on trees. These marked boundary trees and all other unmarked standing trees may not be cut or damaged.

(2) No tree will be left hanging up in another tree.

(3) Tree stumps shall be left no higher than six inches.

(4) All tops and limbs from fallen trees shall be cut up so that piles are no higher than two feet above ground. All limbs or piles must be removed at least 20 feet away from any road or firebreak.

(5) All trees and brush placed into any waterway by a firewood cutter shall be removed immediately. If the firewood cutter has made attempts, but is unable to remove the material, notify the Conservation Branch without delay.

(6) Firewood harvesting will be accomplished during the days and hours stated on the firewood permit.

e. Violations. Individuals found violating provisions of this instruction may have wood cutting privileges suspended or revoked and may be subject to civil prosecution.

f. Safety Precautions.

(1) Alert personnel in the immediate vicinity before felling a tree.

(2) Wear snug fitting clothing, chaps, gloves, and heavy boots.

(3) Wear eye and ear protective devices.

(4) Avoid kick-back. Never cut with the nose of the guide bar.

(5) Avoid over-reaching and cutting above shoulder height.

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(6) Have liquids on hand to prevent dehydration in hot or cold weather.

(7) Use a sharp chain set at the proper tension.

(8) Stand clear of the cutting path of the chain saw.

g. Health Notes.

(1) Lyme Disease (LD) is a tick-borne bacterial disease that is a significant health problem in Maryland. The primary vector for LD in the east coast states is the black-legged tick (*Ixodes dammini*). LD bacterium can be transmitted at any time during the tick's active life cycle, which involves the following stages: larva, nymph, and adult. Small mammals, particularly mice, are the common hosts of the larval and nymphal stages, whereas deer are the primary hosts for adults. Larvae and nymphs are of particular concern because of their small size. Thorough tick checks should be made after being in an area inhabited by ticks. Symptoms commonly associated with the early stages of the disease include flu-like symptoms such as headache, chills, fatigue, fever, and sore, aching muscles and joints. A large red rash, usually characteristic of LD, can appear within 3 to 32 days after the person is bitten by an infected tick. The rash most often appears around the bite, but can occur elsewhere on the body. However, firewood gatherers should be aware that not all individuals will develop a rash. If any of the above symptoms develop, consult your physician immediately.

(2) Poison-Ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) may be present in the firewood cutting area. The plant grows as an erect shrub, trailing vine, or climber. All parts of the plant contain heavy nonvolatile oil that causes inflammation of the skin, with blisters and swelling, in susceptible persons. Mild irritations may be treated with mild astringent lotions. Severe irritations should be treated promptly by a physician. Poison Ivy leaves may be identified by their 3 leaflets. The end leaflet has a longer stalk than the side ones and has a pointed tip.

6. Action. The Station Forester of the Public Works Department's Environmental Division/Conservation Branch will

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administer the program by designating areas for cutting, issuing permits, setting and collecting fees, and monitoring the cutting.

7. Review Authority. The Conservation Branch Head shall review this instruction annually, making changes as necessary.



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