Certified Firewood and What It Means

Katy Mutschler
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Two 18-in logs produced 23,040 beetles in one year after being cut.
Emerald ash borer can live in firewood for two years
• **Heat Treatment Certified** means the company operates a kiln that has passed a rigorous inspection and testing process and has successfully demonstrated the ability to heat their firewood to a minimum core temperature of 140°F for 60 minutes.

• **Kiln Dried Certified:** This certification is limited to wood that has a maximum thickness of three (3) inches, and thus is primarily used for lumber, but may also be used for firewood kindling of the appropriate size. A specific moisture content must be achieved.
MDA Certified
- Producer located **OUTSIDE** of a quarantined area
- Charge for certification

USDA Certified
- Producer located **INSIDE** of a quarantined area
- No charge
Certified Firewood Producers In Minnesota

- Emily Forest Products
- JN Firewood
- Minnesota Firewood LLC
- Paul’s Fireplace Wood Inc.
- Price Firewood
- Sunset Firewood
- TSL Firewood
- Wood Chuckers Firewood LLC

- ProCut Firewood
USDA-APHIS-PPQ Heat Treatment Schedules

• T314-a (emerald ash borer)
  • $140^\circ$F ($60^\circ$C) for 60 minutes

• T314-c (various wood pests)
  • $160^\circ$F ($71.1^\circ$C) for 75 minutes
• A completed application  (Firewood Producer)
• An operational work plan  (Firewood Producer)
• Certification treatment test/thermal mapping  (MDA official)
• Calibration of temperature sensors  (Firewood Producer)
• Compliance agreement and certificate  (MDA official)
Temperature Monitoring Equipment
**Number of Probes Required**

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>&lt;5000 ft³</th>
<th>5001-7000 ft³</th>
<th>7001-9000 ft³</th>
<th>9001-11,000 ft³</th>
<th>11,001-13,000 ft³</th>
<th>13,001-15,000 ft³</th>
<th>15,001-17,000 ft³</th>
<th>17,001-19,000 ft³</th>
<th>19,001-22,000 ft³</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum # of core</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>sensors required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum # of air</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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Table 1. The number of temperature sensors required per load will vary with the internal size of the treatment chamber. The minimum requirement is four (4) sensors – one (1) for measuring air temperature and three (3) for measuring internal wood temperature. For loads greater than 5,000 ft³ (142 m³) of wood, a minimum of one additional sensor for measuring internal wood temperature must be provided for each additional 2,000 ft³. For example, a load of 9,000 ft³ would require a total of six (6) sensors (one ambient air temperature sensor and five [3 + 2] additional sensors).
Thermal Mapping Procedure
Temperature loggers placed throughout the entire chamber
Firewood Core Temperature

Temperature (°C)

Time (hrs)

60°
• Problems or deficiencies found in the kiln or facility’s process must be corrected by the facility
• Work plan modified to reflect corrections
• MDA will run the treatment test again
Why is Certified Firewood Safer?

- MDA certified wood originates from a non-quarantined area
- Heat treated to a core temp of at least 140°F for 60 minutes
  - Most MDA certified wood meets the higher various pest (160°F for 75 min) standard
  - Kills insects or pathogens in the wood
- Certified wood can move out of quarantined areas
Thank you!

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