



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Commissioner's Order

Approved firewood for possession on lands administered by the Commissioner

Effective Date: Upon signing and posting in the state register.

Statutory authority: *Minnesota Statutes*, section 89, subd.551(b)

Supersedes Commissioner's Order dated May 21, 2009 of the same title

BACKGROUND

The 2007 M.S.89.551 Approved Firewood Required, Sec. 2 Subd. 3b authorizes the Commissioner of Natural Resources by written order to publish in the State Register, firewood that will be approved on land administered by the Commissioner.

Revisions are needed to:

- Address conflicts between existing rules that allow visitors to gather firewood on site in some areas and the current Commissioner's Order on Firewood.
- Support sister agency, Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), in expanding their firewood certification program and in the process further our goals of changing public behavior regarding the purchase and use of firewood for recreational purposes.
- Remove option C (debarked wood) under types of approved firewood because it is covered by the MDA certification program, as is kiln drying, another MDA approved treatment method not accepted under the current Commissioner's Order.
- Remove reference to buffer counties because of the public confusion generated and the apparent conflict with state (MDA) enforcement of the emerald ash borer quarantine.
- Reduce the mileage limit (from 100 miles to 50 miles) for untreated firewood in response to evidence indicating that 100 miles is insufficient to protect DNR lands.
- Remove language duplicated in the Department of Commerce labeling standards to avoid future conflicts (when and where the county of original is required on the label).

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to authority vested in me by law, including but not limited to *Minnesota Statutes*, section 89, subdivision .551(b), that:

No firewood will be allowed to enter land administered by the Commissioner unless it complies with at least one of the three conditions below:

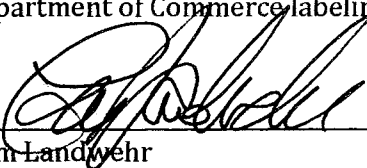
- 1) Firewood offered for sale by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR).

- 2) Firewood offered for sale to the public by a vendor who has successfully completed the MN DNR approval process. Approved firewood vendors must provide customers with a proof of purchase that includes the vendor name, contact information, quantity and date of purchase. This may be in the form of a vendor ticket, bundle label or sales receipt.

Firewood offered for sale by a MN DNR approved vendor must meet one of these two conditions:

- a. Non-ash firewood originating on lands within Minnesota AND within 50 miles of the MN DNR land on which it is to be used. -OR-
 - b. Firewood of any species originating from Minnesota that has been certified by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.
- 3) Firewood that consists of kiln-dried, clean (unpainted and unstained) dimensional lumber that is free of any metal or foreign substance. Note – pallet boards are not considered approved firewood and are not allowed as such on land administered by the Commissioner.

All MN DNR approved vendors must comply with state and federal quarantine regulations and the Minnesota Department of Commerce labeling standards.



Tom Landwehr
Commissioner

Date signed: 3/8/11