



## FAQs – Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine & Compliance Agreements

**IMPORTANT** - No regulated articles are legally allowed to move outside of a quarantine area (whether treated or untreated), except if done so under the terms of a Compliance Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) and/or the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

### What is a Quarantine?

A quarantine is a legal declaration made by NDA to help prevent a potentially dangerous or destructive organism from spreading outside a known infested area into new areas. In the case of emerald ash borer (EAB), the quarantine is designed to limit the movement of potentially-infested ash materials that might carry EAB.

### What areas of Nebraska are currently quarantined for EAB?

To view quarantine maps for the state and specific treatment consideration zones, please visit <http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/plant/entomology/eab>.

### What are regulated articles?

The Nebraska EAB quarantine lists the following as regulated articles:

- A. EAB in all viable life stages
- B. Ash nursery stock
- C. Ash lumber (green)
- D. Any living, dead, cut or fallen material of the ash including logs, limbs, branches, stumps and roots
- E. Composted and uncomposted chips, bark and mulch of all hardwood species
- F. Firewood or fuel wood of all non-coniferous (hardwood) species

### What is a Compliance Agreement?

A Compliance Agreement is a legal agreement between the business/person and NDA that allows for the movement of regulated articles from a quarantine area to a non-quarantine area, when certain conditions are met. The Compliance Agreement describes how a company will properly treat or handle regulated articles to mitigate the spread of EAB and adhere to the quarantine. NDA staff is available to discuss Compliance Agreements in more detail at the request of any business or person wishing to move regulated articles.

When you enter into a Compliance Agreement you are attesting that you have knowledge of the EAB quarantine and the technical ability to meet the specifications found in the Compliance Agreement.

### Do I need a Compliance Agreement?

If you are moving regulated articles (e.g. ash material, hardwood firewood, hardwood chips, etc.) out of a quarantine area you will need a Compliance Agreement. Ash materials that originate from a non-quarantine county and transit the quarantine may require a Compliance Agreement, and it is recommended you contact NDA for further information.

## How do I get a Compliance Agreement?

Contact NDA's Entomology Program at (402) 471-2351 or send an email to [agr.plant@nebraska.gov](mailto:agr.plant@nebraska.gov) and indicate your interest in an EAB Compliance Agreement. An NDA staff person will work with you to determine whether or not a Compliance Agreement is needed for your specific situation, explain the requirements and work with you to get the Compliance Agreement issued.

## What is the cost for a Compliance Agreement?

Each Compliance Agreement is \$50, due at the time of application or renewal. Additional time and mileage fees (\$24/hour and \$0.42/mile) for inspection work to confirm compliance with quarantine may also apply. At least one site visit is required to initially issue a Compliance Agreement, and follow-up inspections may occur. Compliance Agreements are valid for one year and can be renewed annually.

## Are there record keeping requirements for a Compliance Agreement?

Yes. Typically a Compliance Agreement will require you to keep shipping/certification records for all regulated articles certified and shipped under the terms of the Compliance Agreement for at least three years, unless otherwise specified.

An annual summary document is also required as part of the terms of the Compliance Agreement, in which firms report on the number of shipments made and quantity certified under the Compliance Agreement.

## Can I bring hardwood firewood from a non-quarantine area into a quarantine area?

Firewood is allowed to come into the quarantine area. However once it does, it becomes a regulated article and cannot leave the quarantine area without a Compliance Agreement.

## Why are all hardwood chips/mulch/bark and firewood regulated?

Once a log has been cut and split, it is extremely difficult for the average person to identify ash wood from other hardwood species. Because of the difficulty in differentiating between wood species, and the high risk associated with moving EAB-infested firewood and chips/mulch/bark, all hardwood firewood and chips/mulch/bark are regulated. However, the EAB quarantine does not apply to coniferous firewood or coniferous chips/mulch/bark.

## Does the quarantine affect movement of non-ash hardwood nursery stock or non-ash hardwood wood products?

The EAB quarantine does not regulate the movement of non-ash nursery stock or non-ash wood products including logs, lumber or branches. However, the movement of all hardwood firewood out of the quarantine area is regulated.

## Does the quarantine affect the movement of materials within the quarantine area?

There are no legal restrictions for the movement of regulated materials within the quarantine area, except for ash nursery stock. However, NDA still encourages people to take steps to minimize the spread of EAB within quarantine areas. Visit <http://www.nda.nebraska.gov/plant/entomology/eab> for more information and recommendations for reducing the spread of EAB within the quarantine area.