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Living and Working in a Regulated Area

Asian Longhorned Beetle:

Massachusetts





Wood from ALB host trees may not be taken out of the regulated area unless it is chipped to less than 1 inch in two dimensions. Wood chips of this size are no longer a regulated article. Even if an insect were to survive the chipping machine, it could not develop through the various life stages and become an adult beetle due to the lack of moisture and nutrients in the chipped wood. Wood chips generated by the ALB program can be used for many purposes, including burning for energy.

A Compliance Agreement Is Required To Do Business in the Massachusetts ALB-Regulated Area

In order to enter into a compliance agreement with the Massachusetts ALB Cooperative Eradication Program, all individuals and businesses (e.g., landscaping, construction companies, nurseries, tree removal services, firewood dealers, and others) performing work in the regulated area—as well as companies that do any tree pruning or

removal, or in any way handle wood from the 12 ALB host tree species within the regulated area—must attend a training workshop, which is free of charge, with Massachusetts ALB Cooperative Eradication Program regulatory officials. All employees of these businesses or companies are urged to attend this training.

At the conclusion of training, the compliance agreement will be signed by a business or company official.

A compliance agreement allows commercial operators access to approved sites for the disposal of woody debris. However, even those with a compliance agreement should not move any material if, based on their training, they believe it may be infested with ALB. Compliance agreement holders should call the Massachusetts ALB Cooperative Eradication Program immediately if they encounter a suspected ALB infestation.

All commercial operators working with regulated articles within the Massachusetts ALB-regulated area must have a compliance agreement with the program.

For answers to questions about regulated materials and permits in Massachusetts, please call the ALB program toll-free at 1-866-702-9938.



Figure 7. ALB compliance training session.

Living in ALB-Regulated Areas: Guidance for Homeowners

Due to the risk posed by transporting wood articles that may contain ALB, homeowners, property owners, or residents in the Massachusetts ALB-regulated area should not move any regulated articles. Regulated articles include firewood of all hardwood tree species, as well as the other materials mentioned previously.

Homeowners and property owners should hire companies that have compliance agreements for working on ALB host trees. Those with compliance agreements have access to the



Figure 8. Tree inspection being completed with a bucket truck due to its close proximity to power lines.

specified areas where regulated materials may be disposed of safely. Companies holding compliance agreements have been issued stickers for use on their company vehicles. The compliance stickers can be found on vehicle windshields, state the ALB program name, and include an expiration date. This sticker lets property owners know that the company with which they are working has been trained in handling wood materials in an ALB-regulated area and has access to the designated wood disposal site.

Residents and homeowners should not move firewood. Firewood is an easy way that invasive species like the ALB travel, and this can cause infestations in new areas. Purchase your firewood where you will burn it. Firewood cannot be transported, given away, or sold within the regulated area unless it is moved by an individual, company, or business that holds a compliance agreement. Under no circumstances can firewood be moved from inside the regulated area to a location outside the regulated area.

Residents and homeowners can assist in the ALB eradication effort by allowing Massachusetts ALB Cooperative Eradication Program officials access to their private property to perform surveys (i.e., locate ALB host trees and inspect them for signs of infestation); remove infested trees and, in some cases, high-risk host trees near infested trees; or control treatments of host trees. ALB Program representatives will perform these inspections on residential and business properties.