

WHAT is Fuelwood Permit Sales Program?

IAW Army policies, small quantities of residual forest products may be sold on the installation. Fuelwood (aka firewood) is the primary residual forest product available here at Picatinny Arsenal. Salvageable (firewood grade) trees that are felled, limbed, and cut into bolts are stockpiled in the Fuelwood Storage Area or alternate safe location(s) per instructions by the Natural Resources Manager (NRM). This wood is sold through Environmental Affairs Division, Fuelwood Permit Sales Program. Reference also Garrison Policy #26 (Timber Resources and Forestry Products Management).

This firewood permit-sales program is essentially a self-help opportunity for eligible permittees who have the time, skills and abilities, equipment, and hauling vehicle; to purchase excess hardwood for personal home use only. Resale is prohibited.

For ease of loading, chain saw slicing of bolts into manageable size rounds is required on site. Also, splitting may occur on site or at home.

WHAT is a Fuelwood Permit?

A Fuelwood/Forest Products Permit is a document that authorizes eligible persons with customary access to Picatinny Arsenal to remove specified allotted loads of firewood from designated locations within a two-week period after payment of a nominal fee.

Permits are issued for a prescribed number of loads (based on size of truck/trailer bed or van/SUV cargo capacity) within a two-week period from date of issue.

WHAT is Fuelwood?

Fuelwood (aka firewood) is excess hardwood that is salvageable after various tree felling or pruning tasks required for construction clearing; firebreak, roadway, utility Rights of Way, or fence line maintenance; storm damage cleanup; or hazard tree removals.

Nearly all such tree cutting activities occur between 16 NOV CY and 31 MAR next-CY IAW our Endangered Species Management practices to conserve and protect both the Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and the Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). Both species are tree dependent for foraging and roosting when they are not in winter hibernation.

Fuelwood is generally stacked/stored as roundwood logs (aka bolts) 6 -16 feet long of variable diameters between 8 - 22 inches. Species are typically maple, oak, ash, and birch. By late spring and summer most of these bolts will be half seasoned and could be fully seasoned after additional cutting, splitting and stacking by permittees before the next home burning season.

WHERE is Fuelwood located?

The main or central fuelwood storage site is just off (south) of the Escape Trail, upslope from bldg 10. This permanent storage site is in a locked/gated area with stone roadway for access. This site may have quantities of both seasoned and fresh cut wood. Occasionally, there may be other temporary or satellite storage sites on post (e.g. road-side areas, not far from localized tree felling activities). Firewood may not be collected randomly or piecemeal from the Arsenal At Large, as this would constitute theft of government property. Fuelwood Permits are location specific.

WHEN is Fuelwood available?

Fuelwood is usually available year-round, although snow and ice may prohibit vehicle access during winter months. There are a limited number of keys available, so “First come, First served.” The NRM will not issue permits when stockpiles are depleted.

Forest products sold under permit may be removed daily during daylight hours at the convenience and personal time of the purchaser.

WHO may purchase Firewood via Permit and HOW frequently?

Permits may be issued to all employees and contractors who work on Picatinny, as well as any active duty military (on post or off-post residents), National Guard or Reserve military personnel, and federally retired civilian or military personnel, who would normally have routine unescorted access onto the installation.

Permit is valid for up to 2 weeks or until the specified number of vehicle loads have been loaded and hauled away from the storage site. Permit is void once all allotted loads have been hauled or upon 2-week expiration.

Subsequent permits may be purchased as needed.

WHO sells Fuelwood Permits and WHERE are they sold?

Fuelwood Permits are sold and issued by the Natural Resources Manager at building 319. Always contact the NRM by phone (973 724-4691) before coming to the building. Plan to call NRM between 0930 – 1430, MON-THU.

WHAT is the cost of a Fuelwood Permit?

\$10 is the minimum sale for 1/2 cord-approximate. A 1/2 cord-approximate is defined for this program as one haul load of a full size pickup truck (bed).

Typical purchase is \$20/cord-approximate. One cord-approximate is considered as two haul loads of a full-sized pickup truck - If stacked, this could make a pile of wood approximately 6 ft long x 4 ft wide x 5.3 ft high (127.2 cu ft). The volume of a standard stacked cord of wood (8 ft long x 4 ft wide x 4 ft high) is 128 cu ft.

The number of allotted loads is prorated for smaller sized pick-up truck beds.

These fees are nominal, since all cutting and/or splitting, and loading of the stockpiled logs or bolts is by the purchaser; and the volumes are approximated.

HOW is a Fuelwood Permit purchased/issued? (The Process)

Preliminary Steps...

1. **Call NRM** at (973) 724-4691 to check on wood availability and/or location(s).
2. **Check out location(s)** and assess roundwood lengths and diameters to ascertain your personal and equipment capabilities for processing the wood bolts.
3. **Determine the 2-week period** for which a permit is to be issued; when personal time and effort can be expended.
4. **Call NRM again to coordinate** mutually convenient time for the 5 minute purchase/issuance transaction.

At Point-of-Sale (bldg. 319)...

5. **Know the volume capacity** (full sized vs short bed or dimensions) of the hauling vehicle.
6. **Know the license plate number** of the hauling vehicle/trailer. If the hauling vehicle (typically a pick-up truck) must be loaded and/or driven by a spouse, family relative, or neighbor, access for that individual can usually be arranged.
7. **Only personal checks can be accepted** (no cash or money orders) made ***payable to U.S. Treasury***.
8. NRM will prepare a one page, one-time use, form with Permittee's Name and Address; home, work, and/or mobile Phone numbers, with other relevant information summarizing the transaction.
9. Permittee will be loaned an accountable key for access to the Fuelwood Storage site.
10. Permittee will review a short listing of policy and program requirements, then sign to agree to abide by the requirements, as well as a "hold harmless" statement.
11. NRM will make a copy of the Permit for permanent files.
12. Permittee will be given the 2-week Permit for display on dashboard of hauling vehicle when processing and hauling wood while on post.

WHAT is expected of Permittee upon authorization of Permit?

1. ***SAFETY is #1 priority***. Know your personal physical abilities and proper use of equipment. It is highly recommended that permittee wear/use PPE (Personal Protective Equipment).
2. **Permittee must always be present and responsible** whenever Permit is displayed (in use) while on post. **Permit must be displayed on dashboard** while loading and hauling wood on post.
3. ***Process and take only allotted loads*** authorized on permit. The Program operates under the ***Honor System***.
4. **Keep access gate Secured**.
5. ***Return key to NRM in person and in a timely manner*** (next business day upon completion of allotted loads or immediately after Permit expiration).

POC: Natural Resources Manager at (973) 724-4691 0930-1430, MON-THU