



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Message from Shawnee National Forest to Hunters and Other Visitors

Harrisburg, IL, November 14, 2008 - In light of hunting season, the Forest Service reminds all visitors, both hunters and non-hunters, about appropriate use of firewood and deer stands. Please remember, ATV use is not allowed on the Shawnee National Forest.

Bringing or using firewood gathered from outside Southern Illinois is prohibited on the Shawnee National Forest. You can help the Forest Service and other federal and state agencies slow the spread of emerald ash borer and other non-native invasive species by obtaining your firewood from local sources.

On national forest lands within the Shawnee National Forest, portable hunting stands that do not damage live trees are allowed. Permanent deer stands are prohibited on the Shawnee National Forest.

On a final note, we encourage visitors to observe these simple safety rules:

- Leave your travel plans with a friend, family or neighbor
- Keep aware of your location with a map, compass or GPS technology
- Be sure you are visible with blaze orange
- Watch for other traffic – on foot, on the road and on the trails
- Wear adequate clothing to cope with weather variations
- Be prepared for travel on snow and ice

For more information, please contact a local Forest Service office or check our website at: www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee.

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