

**City of Frederick Municipal Forest and Watershed
Personal Use Firewood Policy and Procedure
Effective xxxxxxxxx**

Background

The City of Frederick Municipal Forest and Watershed, also known as the Watershed, is a 7,000-acre forest that protects a portion of the City's water supply. In an effort to better manage fuel loads and protect the resource, the City will offer a limited number of pre-designated parcels for firewood cutting when needed for forest health.

This will allow City of Frederick and Frederick County residents an opportunity to remove dead/down material to meet their own domestic needs for home heating.

The following policies and procedures will apply to all firewood harvests in the Watershed.

Policy and Procedure

- A firewood cutting permit must be in the possession of the person(s) at all times while cutting firewood.
- Permits are available at the City of Frederick and only one permit is allowed per individual or household in the City of Frederick or Frederick County. Permits are not transferrable and the fee is non-refundable.
- The cost shall be \$100 per site, with a specified harvest time of one month. Sites will be pre-selected and permittees will be assigned a specific site.
- The wood shall only be cut and gathered for personal use and shall not be sold.
- Each permit holder must remove only downed wood in the parcel. No live or standing dead trees will be cut, girdled, or damaged in any way.
- Any tree with an orange mark shall be left intact and will not be removed from the site.
- All brush and other debris must be removed from roadways, ditch lines, and streams, and moved back at least 50 feet from the ditch line of all public roadways. All litter must be removed from the site.
- Off road equipment may not be used to remove firewood. All vehicles must remain on road surfaces or designated forest roads. If sites require access behind locked gates, arrangements will be made in advance for safe access of permittees and vehicles.
- Anyone on Watershed property for the purposes of cutting firewood is proceeding solely at their own risk. Permittees must exercise caution and act in a safe and reasonable manner at all times. All participants are strongly encouraged to learn chainsaw safety skills and wear proper protective clothing and equipment (chainsaw chaps, leather boots, leather gloves, hardhat, hearing and eye protection) while operating a chainsaw.

*** Failure to obey these restrictions may result in revocation of your cutting privileges and possibly permanent banning from the Watershed for any purpose. Permit holders are responsible for any and all damage to private or state property that results from their negligence.**