

## **Firewood Cutting**

Cutting firewood for winter heat is an Alaskan tradition. Whether cutting on private or public land, the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry advises wood cutters how to choose good fuel wood while promoting forest health. In Alaska's Interior, birch is the best firewood for generating heat on a volume basis, followed by aspen, poplar, and white spruce. It is best to remove defected, blown down, and insect infested trees while leaving some standing dead trees for wildlife habitat. Both commercial and personal use firewood cutting on state land requires a Division of Forestry permit. The Department's goal is to ensure that wood cutting provides a sustainable fuel while enhancing the health of Alaskan forests.