

## Town Forest Firewood Program

The Town Forest Committee will continue the program in which volunteers clean up dead hardwood trees in the forest, buck and split the logs to stove/fireplace lengths, and offer the result to Town residents for a reasonable fee. The amount offered is a pickup truck load which is about 1/3rd of a cord or half that. The cost for seniors (age 60 and older) is \$75.00 per full load and \$45 for a half load. The cost for younger residents is \$110 for a full load and \$60 for a half load. Fees are to be paid by check to the Town of Sherborn and cover delivery and help in stacking.

After receiving the first order, residents must wait 45 days before requesting a second order. In scheduling the second order, priority is given to senior residents and to those who have exhausted their supply.

Aside from providing firewood to the citizens of Sherborn, the program reduces fire hazard in the forest and improves public access by clearing trails. Moreover, there is increasing appreciation that burning firewood is greener than burning fossil fuels. A growing tree absorbs carbon dioxide, releases oxygen, and stores carbon. When a tree dies, it decays and oxidizes, releasing carbon dioxide. It does not matter whether the tree is burned in a fireplace/stove or decays in the forest. Over the course of its life cycle the net product of carbon dioxide for a tree is neutral. Alternatively, in burning fossil fuels we are oxidizing carbon that was stored millions of years ago. The result is that heating with firewood in place of fossil fuels DECREASES net release of carbon dioxide.

The Town Forest Committee expresses its thanks and appreciation to the volunteers who did this work last year. These were: Ken Adams, Bob Ambos, Jane Brame, Doug Brodie, Alan Dunn, Scott Embree, Julianne Huber, John Higley, Kelly McClintock, Bruce Muldoon, Zack Spillman, Bill Thomas, Tom Trainor, Chris Tullman, Susan Tyler, Charlie Williams, and Stuart Williams

To request delivery of firewood call Bob at 508 655 1045. In addition, to establishing a date and time, please tell him what you will be burning it in (to make sure you get the right size) and where you will be stacking it. The firewood crew prefers that you store it inside. If you must store it outside, it must be protected from direct contact with the ground.