

161 WORDS, 60 SECONDS

OUR INVASIVE ENEMIES

A FEW SIMPLE ACTIONS CAN HELP PROTECT AMERICA'S CROPS AND FORESTS FROM SERIOUS HARM. INVASIVE PESTS THREATEN EVERYTHING FROM MAPLE SYRUP TO DOMESTIC WINE, CLOTHING, LUMBER-EVEN GARDENS. THEY'VE COST BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN LOST PRODUCTS AND JOBS. SOME HUNGRY PESTS EVEN CARRY DISEASE. THESE INSECTS, ANIMALS, PLANTS AND PLANT DISEASES ARE NOT NATIVE TO THE COMMUNITY, SO THEY HAVE FEW OR NO NATURAL ENEMIES. THEY CAN EASILY FEAST ON OR INFECT OUR FARMS, FORESTS, PARKS AND BACKYARDS. TYPICALLY, PEOPLE—UNINTENTIONALLY—SPREAD INVASIVE PESTS. FORTUNATELY, YOU CAN HELP PREVENT THE PROBLEM. VISIT HUNGRY-PESTS--DOT--COM AND LEARN SEVEN EASY WAYS TO LEAVE HUNGRY PESTS BEHIND, LIKE BURNING FIREWOOD WHERE YOU BUY IT, OR MAKING SURE AGRICULTURAL INSPECTORS HAVE CLEARED ANY FRESH FRUITS, VEGETABLES OR PLANTS YOU MOVE BETWEEN STATES. YOU CAN ALSO LEARN TO IDENTIFY AND REPORT INVASIVE PESTS AT HUNGRY-PESTS--DOT--COM. THE MORE YOU KNOW ABOUT INVASIVE PESTS, THE BETTER CHANCE THERE IS TO STOP THEM.