# FOREST AND ROADSIDE FIREWOOD COLLECTION – KNOW THE RULES

Firewood collectors are reminded to check with their local council before collecting firewood from a roadside.

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) remind residents: "Roadside collection is generally managed by the road manager, with DELWP responsible for designated firewood collection areas within State Forest only".

"Firewood collectors can seek permission and/or a permit from their local council to collect firewood from council-managed roadsides, while roads managed by VicRoads do not normally allow firewood collection".

"Parks Victoria does not allow firewood collection in National Parks.  Collection of firewood from State Forests is only allowed in designated areas during the spring or autumn collection season.  Designated areas are available at www.delwp.vic.gov.au/firewood."

Councils has a vegetation management plan which allows limited roadside firewood collection through a permit system to protect and conserve roadside vegetation and native animals.

Roadside vegetation provides important habitat to animals such as parrots, kookaburras, owls, possums, gliders, bats and geckos.  All of these local fauna residents are on a high conservation values road reserves and require hollows and fallen timber for shelter and homes.

Remember:

- Enquire at Council about a permit to collect firewood from roadsides
- Take only what the Permit allows – domestic quantities only
- Do not fell standing trees
- Do not disturb native wildlife or their habitat
- Wear the correct protective and safety equipment when operating a chainsaw

If you see something, say something – report suspicious behaviour to the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136186, Crime stoppers on 1800 333 000 or your local DELWP office, Council (5461 0610)  or police station.  Illegal roadside collection my attract monetary penalties and/or imprisonment under the Forest Act 1958, Wildlife Act 1975 and/or Planning and Environment Act 1987