

# How to get free firewood

By Daniel Savickas

With the recent hurricanes in the Gulf that are responsible for our rising natural gas prices, it's important to remember that having a good old fashioned fire in your fireplace is a great way to heat your home. But lets face it, with cords of wood starting at \$300 this isn't exactly the cheapest way turn you freezing family room into a comfortable 70 degrees. If only there were a way to get cheap firewood.

Fear not, The LowDown is here with its third installment of "how to get free firewood." Now I know what you're thinking, 'free firewood? Where can I get free firewood.' The answer is simple my friends, steal it from your neighbors.

## 1. The slip and fall technique

One of the great things about having a neighbor is, you can stop by and get some neighborly advice. Now if you just so happened to stop over to see your neighbor and you slipped and fell on their front stairs or driveway, don't you think they'd like to make it up to you? And what better way to make it up to you then with a couple of cords of nice hard wood.

When your neighbor answers the door, stage a slip and fall right in front of them. When they ask if you're okay, just moan and say things like, "Oh the pain," or "My neck, my neck and my back."

When they ask if there's anything they can do for you, just mumble in pain, "Oh man, I'm going to have to go to the hospital and I don't have any insurance. I'm going to have to call my father, the really successful big time lawyer, and ask him what I should do since I fell on *your* icy front step."

Wait for them to react, they throw out this suggestion, "Well this could get ugly, but we can settle out of court right now for two or three cords of firewood."

### Helpful hints

- a. First of all, your neighbor's front steps might not be icy enough to pull this stunt off. Call them up on the phone and tell them you're some cookies and you just

wanted to see if you could bring some by later. While you're on the phone with your neighbor, have your roommate throw a bucket of water on their staircase.

- b. Bring a witness. If you do everything right and pull this technique off, it's still your word against theirs. But, if you bring your roommate you've got a witness. Plus your roommate can make the situation look worse than it really is by making comments like, "I think I heard something break." Then when you've settled the deal with your neighbor for the firewood, your roommate can help carry you back to your house.

## 2. The George W. Bush technique

Like oil is to the Bush regime, wood is to someone spending a winter in Tahoe. Thanks to George W. Bush and his administration, we have given up certain freedoms to ensure our freedom. Wait, can that possibly be right? Yeah, as sad as that may seem that is true. But use this intrusion into our lives to help keep your life just a bit warmer this winter.

Call up the department of homeland security, if you read The LowDown on a regular basis you'll remember that they have an email

address and phone number in the yellow pages, and tell them your neighbor is harboring members of Al Qaeda or has recently trained in an Al Qaeda training camp.

Remember, due to the Patriot Act, your neighbor has no rights. Before they get the chance to prove their innocents they'll be locked up in Guantanamo Bay. It will take months of being held without legal representation before they're ever given a chance to prove themselves in a court of law. It's not like you accused them of murder or rape, you claimed they're a terrorist; they have no rights even if you have no proof. We live in a nation that is engaged in a war against terrorism, by the time they're released, if they're ever released, it will be spring and you will have enjoyed an entire winter of free firewood.

You won't even have to hide it from them that you're stealing their firewood because they'll be stowed away in some jail getting tortured for information on which cave

Osama is hiding in.

### Helpful hints

- a. Sneak into your neighbor's house while they're gone and leave blue prints dealing with pipe bombs, and a lot of information dealing with nuclear energy lying around their desk. In their back yard and along the side of the house leave lots of aluminum tubes. This will be enough evidence, not that it will be needed they are being accused of being terrorists after all, to keep them away from their firewood all winter long.

## 3. The war of the world's technique

This one takes a little bit of preparation. First of all, either you or your neighbor needs a dark basement or bomb shelter. Once you have secured a dark isolated room, proceed to wake your neighbors up in the middle of the night. Most

