**B”H**

*Eitz Chayim Hee: A Torah Commentary for Environmental Learning and Action*

**Hebrew/English Source Sheet**

**Torah Portion of Shoftim**

*“The Torah Prohibits Wasteful Destruction”*

The sources are presented in the order they appear in the commentary

---

**Deuteronomy 20:19-20**

19. When you besiege a city for many days to wage war against it to capture it, you shall not destroy its trees by wielding an ax against them, for you may eat from them, but you shall not cut them down. Is the tree of the field a man, to go into the siege before you?

20. However, a tree you know is not a food tree, you may destroy and cut down, and you shall build bulwarks against the city that makes war with you, until its submission.

---

All English Translations from Judaica Press, available online at www.chabad.org

*Sources not included:*
Sefer Ha-hinuch, Parshat Shoftim-negative prohibition of bal tashit
Maimonides, *Sefer Ha-mitzvot*, Positive Commandment 6.?