

Controlling Spotted Lanternfly



The spotted lanternfly is a new invasive insect that can damage many trees and fruit crops. Fortunately, there are ways you can reduce the numbers of this pest if it has arrived on your land. This slideshow introduces some techniques for managing spotted lanternfly.

Strategy 1

Remove Tree of Heaven

The invasive tree *Ailanthus*, also called Tree of Heaven, is a preferred host of the spotted lanternfly. Removing these trees from your land, especially the female trees, can slow the spotted lanternflies' spread.





Tree of Heaven is an invasive tree, so removing it will benefit your woods. Look for it especially along roadsides and forest edges.



You can identify female Tree of Heaven by looking for the red seed clusters that grow on them in late summer.



To control Tree of Heaven, use the “hack and squirt” method. Cut into the trunk with a hatchet, then squirt herbicide into the cuts. Wait 30 days, then cut down the tree (Caution! Cutting without herbicide will lead to many sprouts). For best results, apply herbicide in early June through mid-October.

Strategy 2

Remove Egg Masses

Adult spotted lanternflies can't survive the winter. Only the eggs can. Scraping off lanternfly egg masses in fall or winter can reduce their numbers. Use a putty knife or old credit card to scrape off the egg masses. Double-bag the egg masses and throw them in the trash.



Photo credit: Lawrence Barringer, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org



Photo credit: Kenneth R. Law, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

Strategy 3

Trap Nymphs with Adhesive Bands

Spotted lanternfly eggs hatch in May. The early forms of this insect, called nymphs or instars, travel up and down the tree trunk to feed. You can use this knowledge to trap them.



Photo credit: Lawrence Barringer, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org

To trap spotted lanternflies, wrap an adhesive tree band around the trunks of vulnerable trees (maple, apple, walnut, and Tree of Heaven). Tree bands are available commercially. For a DIY alternative, wrap duct tape around the tree sticky side in. Coat the outside in petroleum jelly to trap the insects.



Photo credit: Lawrence Barringer, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org

Apply bands from May through August, but especially in May and June. By July, the spotted lanternfly changes into its last immature stage. Adhesive bands are less effective against this stage, because the insect is bigger and less likely to get stuck.



Photo credit: Lawrence Barringer, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org

Have you seen spotted lanternfly? Report it!

Spotted lanternfly is a new invasive pest, and it is spreading rapidly. Please report it right away!

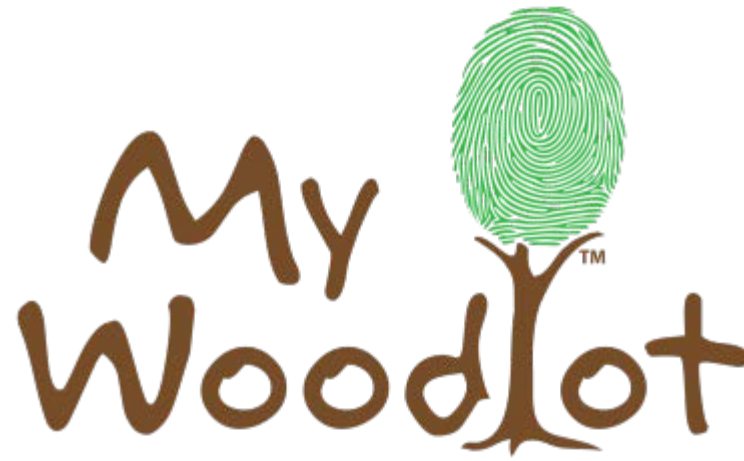
New York: spottedlanternfly@dec.ny.gov

Connecticut: CAES.StateEntomologist@ct.gov

Massachusetts: Fill out [this](#) form.

New Jersey: SLF-plantindustry@ag.nj.gov or 833-223-2840

Pennsylvania: badbug@pa.gov or 866-253-7189



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