

PSA: Spotted Lanternflies and Trees of Heaven

Frequently Asked Questions



What's the problem with Spotted Lanternflies (SLF)?

- Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive pest from Asia that poses a severe risk for agriculture and the environment. They feed on a variety of plants and trees, primarily Trees of Heaven.
- They have specialized mouthparts that feed on a plant's sap, which can leave plants weaker and more prone to disease.

How can I help?

- Learn how to identify SLF. Extensive descriptions available in links below.
- Inspect outdoor items for egg masses (firewood, vehicles, stones, grills and outdoor furniture).
- If you visit other states with SLF, be sure to check all equipment and gear before leaving and after coming back. Scrape off any egg masses.

What should I do if I see SLF?

- Purchase commercially-available SLF traps and insecticides.
- Vacuuming SLF is safer than insecticides. Empty the vacuum after two days to avoid a putrid odor from decaying SLF.
- Use "Trap Trees" to corral SLF to a small number of trees treated with insecticide.
- Destroy egg masses by scraping them into a bucket of hot, soapy water or a baggie/jar of hand sanitizer.
- Visit "Management Tools and Tactics" from Cornell University (link below).

Additional Resources

- NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets: [SLF Resources](#)
- Cornell University: [General SLF Resources](#) and [Management Tools and Tactics](#)
- Email pictures of infestations to spottedlanternfly@agriculture.ny.gov or fill out their [reporting form](#)

