

Spotted lanternfly Monthly Update to Stakeholders
PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO YOUR ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND STAFF
July 2018

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets (DAM), the US Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) and the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) have coordinated a multi-agency effort to prevent, detect, and respond to the threat of spotted lanternfly (SLF) in New York. First discovered in [Pennsylvania](#) in 2014, SLF is now confirmed in Virginia, New Jersey, and Delaware. For a description of the issues surrounding this high priority invasive species please visit <https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/113303.html>. A Unified Incident Command System was established in January 2018 to leverage the joint effort and organize resources and responsibilities. Since then, drafts of an Education and Outreach Plan, a Survey Plan, a Regulatory Plan and a Response Plan have been developed. Activities have been focused on detection and prevention, particularly to raise awareness among the public, with an understanding that public reporting is very effective with such a unique looking pest. At this point, detecting SLF in New York as early as possible is critical to success in controlling it in New York.

Some key components of these plans are underway, including:

- Hosted a press event for Invasive Species Awareness Week focused on SLF.
- Commercial vehicle inspections at NYSDOT checkpoints and evaluation of compliance with Pennsylvania Quarantine.
- Tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) surveys in high risk areas, in cooperation with partners organizations, state agencies and PRISMs. Tree of heaven is the preferred and potentially necessary host species of SLF.
- Deployment of sticky band traps in strategic locations of high risk areas of NYS.
- Under ECL 9-1303, a DEC Commissioner Order to create a Protective Zone covering 20 counties in NY has been established. This allows DEC to enter private lands to modify the forest as needed to prevent the spread of forest insect pests, and includes spraying, cutting, destroying or otherwise treating trees or other vegetation, primarily focused on tree of heaven.
- DAM is also evaluating the need for an external quarantine which would further restrict imports into NY from Pennsylvania.
- Obtained approval for dinotefuran insecticide product use in the control of SLF.
- Working with researchers and staff from USDA, Forest Service, Penn State and PA Department of Ag to understand best methods of control and survey.
- Development of education and outreach materials: [press release](#), [factsheets](#), webpage, presentations, trap tags, etc.

We continue to anticipate the arrival of SLF and plan to aggressively pursue eradication efforts upon detection. We request that you share this information with your membership and encourage SLF awareness. Please report any sightings to spottedlanternfly@dec.ny.gov.