

# Spotted Lanternfly Update!



In Pennsylvania, the Spotted Lanternfly goes through one generation per year. Currently, you can find it in its adult stage, which is about 1 inch with its wings closed and 1.5 inches with its wings open. When you see a Spotted Lanternfly:

- Call 1-888-4BAD-FLY to report it, or
- Take a picture, upload and report it using the [online reporting tool](#).

What happens after I report a Spotted Lanternfly?



## Survey and Control

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) are working cooperatively on Spotted Lanternfly survey and control operations.

- Survey for Spotted Lanternfly in all 67 counties (33,000 documented points)
- Kill hundreds of thousands of Tree of Heaven
- Establish thousands of trap trees (Tree of Heaven that are left alive and treated with insecticide to kill Spotted Lanternfly that feed on the trees)
- Place sticky bands in more than 10,000 locations, as a survey tool to find new or low level populations

When evaluating a site for treatment, PDA field staff rank properties based on five pre-determined factors. The more of these criteria a property meets, the more likely it is to receive treatment:

- Is there evidence of Spotted Lanternfly on the property?
  - Is the property a heavily-used parking area?
  - Is there significant Tree-of-Heaven present on the property?
  - Is the property a high-volume shipping operation?
  - Is there a high-traffic roadway or rail line adjacent to the property?
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## Maintaining the Quarantine

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture used its authority to establish a 14-county Spotted Lanternfly quarantine. Penn State and PDA work together to educate residents and businesses in how to comply with the quarantine, and the best management practices to prevent spread of Spotted Lanternfly. PDA is charged with quarantine compliance and enforcement activities. To date, PDA has issued nearly one million permits to more than 19,000 companies in the United States and Canada.

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Research



A vibrant research team from Penn State University and USDA are conducting research projects aimed at better understanding and controlling Spotted Lanternfly. The researchers are supported by state and federal funding, and by on-the-ground assistance from PDA and USDA survey staff.

Research projects include:

- Drs. David Biddinger and Nina Jenkins from PSU Entomology teamed up with Cornell University to research a fungal pathogen that attacks insects, including Spotted Lanternfly. The team is investigating if commercially available fungal pathogens can reduce populations of Spotted Lanternfly
- Dr. Kelli Hoover and her team are currently conducting trials on how Spotted Lanternfly disperse through woods and what plants are required and/or preferred for each life stage
- Dr. Michela Centinari and team are gearing up for a study on evaluating Spotted Lanternfly feeding damage on grapevines
- Insecticide efficacy trials are continuing for products which have long residual activity and are environmentally safe. [Click here](#) to check out the results
- Dr. Tom Baker has recently published his work on Spotted Lanternfly behavior, indicating that Spotted Lanternfly has a preference to fly towards the sun once disturbed. [Click here](#) to find out more on Dr. Baker's study

There is still a lot to learn about to the Spotted Lanternfly. The partnership is committed to continuing that work.

## Get involved with the SLF Calendar Contest!

We invite you to enter the 2020 Spotted Lanternfly calendar contest! All Pennsylvania Students in grades 1-8 are eligible to enter. Last year's contest was a huge success, and we can't wait to see this year's entries!

[Click here](#) to learn more information.



**SPOTTED LANTERNFLY:** AN INVASIVE PLANTHOPPER NATIVE TO CHINA, INDIA, VIETNAM. FIRST DISCOVERED IN PENNSYLVANIA IN BERKS COUNTY AND HAS SINCE SPREAD TO 14 SOUTHEAST COUNTIES. IN ADDITION TO BEING AN INCREDIBLE PEST AND REDUCING QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THOSE IN INFESTED AREAS, THIS BAD BUG HAS THE POTENTIAL TO GREATLY IMPACT SOME OF PA'S MOST VALUABLE AGRICULTURAL CROPS INCLUDING GRAPES, HOPS, AND HARDWOODS.



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