

Spotted Lanternfly Monthly Update to Stakeholders
PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO YOUR ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND STAFF
August 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. Detecting SLF in New York as early as possible is critical to success in controlling it in New York.

Planning and activities in August focused on the following:

- Commercial vehicle inspections have been scheduled for September to look for signs of SLF and to evaluate compliance with Pennsylvania Quarantine.
- Continue to conduct Tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) and SLF 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. Three dedicated Ag & Markets staff are working full time to survey; 456 km² grids have been completed to date.
- Monitoring of sticky band traps deployed in strategic high-risk locations of New York.
- Ag & Markets continues work on an external quarantine which would further restrict imports into NY from Pennsylvania. This has not yet been finalized.
- DEC and State Parks staff attended a workshop and tour of the PA Quarantine Zone hosted by Penn State Extension. Staff were able to witness SLF behavior and impacts.
- Staff participate in the SLF Regional Working Group and APHIS meetings.
- Working with researchers and staff from USDA, Forest Service, Penn State and PA Department of Ag to understand best methods of control and survey.
- DEC and Ag & Markets staff maintained a presence at the NYS Fair to distribute SLF information and outreach materials: [factsheets](#), tattoos, bumper stickers, etc.
- Staff made several presentations to various groups and continue to promote SLF resources.

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.