



SPOTTED LANTERNFLY FAQ



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What is a Spotted Lanternfly?

Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) is an invasive insect native to China, India, and Vietnam; and now established in South Korea, Japan, and the U.S. It was first discovered in the U.S. in Pennsylvania in 2014 and has spread to New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, New York, Connecticut, and Ohio.



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Are Spotted Lanternflies dangerous?

This insect can greatly impact crops and trees. While it does not harm humans or animals, it can reduce the quality of life for people living in heavily infested areas.

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Will SLF kill my trees/plants?

SLF feeds on the sap of many different plants including grapevines, maples, black walnut, and other important plants in NJ. The feeding stresses the plants which can lead to poor health and death of the plants. As SLF feeds, it excretes honeydew (a sugary substance) which can attract bees, wasps, and other insects. The honeydew also promotes the growth of mold, which can cover the plant, patio furniture, cars, and anything else where the SLF feed.

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What can I do about SLF?

Please [click here](#) to refer to an excellent resource from the Penn State Extension Office.

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What is Hudson County doing about SLF?

The Hudson Regional Health Commission has received a small grant from the NJ Department of Agriculture to assist with SLF control. We are accepting service requests from the public. If there is any tree of heaven (TOH) on your property, it will be treated with an insecticide. This treatment lasts several months. If there is a large population of SLF on other infested trees, we may apply a different insecticide.

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How do I request service?

Call the [Hudson Regional Health Commission](#) at 201-223-1133 to make a service request.

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When can I expect service?

SLF services are provided as time and staffing allow. Service requests are being handled in the order received. We appreciate your patience as we respond as quickly as possible.

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What pesticides are you using?

We are using the pesticides recommended by the NJ Department of Agriculture. TOH is being treated with [Transtect 7Q](#) which penetrates the tree and kills SLF as they feed. [Bifen I/T](#) is being used as a contact insecticide to kill SLF directly. On public property, TOH is being killed with [Carlon 4 Ultra](#). Similar products may be substituted as necessary.

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Are the SLF sprays safe?

All the products used by the Hudson Regional Health Commission for SLF control are registered with the US Environmental Protection Agency and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection. The EPA reviews all testing of pesticides to ensure that they do not present any significant health or environmental risk when used as directed. However, you and your pets should never touch treated surfaces while they are still wet.

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Where can I find more information about SLF?

For more information, please visit the NJ Department of Agriculture website at <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/pests-diseases/spotted-lanternfly/>. Be sure to check out the "Homeowner Resources" section.

