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Pest Alert

We need your help to stop the spread of this potentially damaging invasive insect.

The **Spotted Lanternfly**, *Lycorma delicatula* (White), an invasive planthopper has been discovered in Berks County. The pest is native to China, India, Japan, Vietnam, and introduced to Korea where it is a pest. This pest attacks many hosts including grapes, apple, pines, stone fruits, and Tree of Heaven and has the potential to greatly impact the grape, fruit tree, and logging industries. Early detection is vital for the protection of Pennsylvania businesses and agriculture.

Identification: The Spotted Lanternfly is approximately 1" long and 1/2" wide. The forewing is grey with black spots and the wings tips are reticulated black blocks outlined in grey. The hind wings have contrasting patches of red and black with a white band partially separating. The legs and head are black; the abdomen is yellow with broad black bands. The mouthparts are tubular and arises from the bottom of the head.

Hosts: In the fall, adults can be found primarily on all sizes of Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) and grape (*Vitis* sp.), often in clumps of 4-18 or more. Adults may also be found congregating at the tree base near leaf litter. After hatching, nymphs will move off Tree of Heaven and search out other hosts in the spring. In Korea it has been recorded as attacking 65 different species, 25 of which are known to grow in Pennsylvania.



Signs and Symptoms: Early in the fall the adults will congregate mainly on stems of Tree of Heaven and grape. Weeping wounds will leave a grayish or black trail along the trunk. Mold patches, appearing as large yellowish white mats, may develop at the tree base. Feeding damage will attract yellow jackets and hornets so caution is advised. In late Fall search efforts should switch to location of egg masses. Adults lay egg masses on trees and nearby smooth surfaces, like stone, outdoor furniture, vehicles, and other structures. Newly laid egg masses have a grey pitch like covering over the eggs. Old egg masses appear as rows of 30-50 brownish seed like deposits in 4-7 columns on the trunk, in a mass that is roughly an inch long.

What to do if you: See eggs: Scrape the eggs off the tree or smooth surface, double bag them, and throw them away. You can alternately place the eggs into alcohol or hand sanitizer to kill them. Collect a specimen: The adult specimen or egg mass can be turned in to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Entomology lab for verification. If you have questions, please contact the Penn State Extension office in Berks County 610-378-1327 or Nancy Bosold nfb1@psu.edu.

Take a picture: A photograph of the adults or egg masses (emerged or covered) can be submitted for verification. Submit photographs to Badbug@pa.gov. Report a site: If you can't collect a specimen or take a photograph call the Automated Invasive Species Report Line 866-253-7189 and leave a message detailing your sighting and your contact information.

Read [Spotted Lanternfly Pest Alert](#) for sample submission and other details.

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Work continues on our Chimney Swift Tower-Kiosk at Cedar Beach in Cedar Creek Parkway.

Our thanks to Scott Burnet (Lehigh Valley Audubon Society), Dan Poresky and the Allentown Dept. of Parks and Recreation for their commitment to this conservation project.

