

**Spotted Lanternfly Community Engagement Taskforce
Northeast Taskforce
Meeting Notes from September 8, 2021**

Members Present (via Zoom): Shane Philipps and Stephanie Schwartz (PDA), David Schwartz (USDA), Amy Korman (PSU Extension), Raymond Boronyak (PennDOT), Amanda Bunn (Lehigh County Conservation District), Josh Longmore (Luzerne County Conservation District), Janet Creegan (Northampton County Conservation District), Kyle Schutt (Schuylkill County Conservation District), Karen George (East Penn Manufacturing), Brandon Gill (PMTA), Randy Fey

Updates and Reports:

Amy K. PSU Extension Update

- Cornell updated the NY IPM Program Map to include the Ohio and Indiana populations. [SLF-reported-distribution-9-7-21 \(cornell.edu\)](#)
- Map is updated regularly and easily accessible through stopSLF.org. [Home - Stop SLF](#)
- The new Penn State SLF Management Guide 2021 is finished. It is available to download from their website or order from their publications center. [Spotted Lanternfly Management Guide \(psu.edu\)](#)
 - The new guide was assembled for residents. Includes a risk table to get public to understand that 1 SLF is not a risk, and give them an idea of what types of tools to use for management of SLF. It also includes the steps of SLF management.
 - Two other guides still available geared toward industry: Management for Landscape Professionals [Spotted Lanternfly Management for Landscape Professionals \(psu.edu\)](#) and Management in Vineyards [Spotted Lanternfly Management in Vineyards \(psu.edu\)](#)
- People seem to be asking where are the SLF this year? Spotted Lanternfly might not be present in the same numbers as before. This is similar to population peaks and valleys observed in gypsy moths – a natural occurrence seen in many insect populations. This could be one answer, but no one really knows for sure.
 - Population ups and downs are pretty common. Populations are affected from year to year by three things: weather conditions, host plant availability and health, and natural enemies.
 - It is also a bit early in the SLF season to determine if numbers are actually down. Now through the end of September will give us a better idea of their numbers – this is when they do lots of movement and feeding.
- Cornell is doing research on fungi attacking SLF. If you find spotted lanternfly with fungi growing on it, please take photos, record the location, and date, and contact Eric Clifton (ehc87@cornell.edu) & Ann Hajek (aeh4@cornell.edu).

Shane P. PDA Update

Communications Updates

- All PennDOT Welcome Centers now have SLF materials
- The June and July issues of the Spotted Lanternflyer were emailed – link to signup is: [Spotted Lanternflyer Sign Up \(pa.gov\)](#)
- 3 press releases were issued in May and June
- A new blog post was posted
- New IPM brochures for PDA and USDA to distribute

- SLF post on Commonwealth Employee Bulletin Board
- Ag Progress Days was August 10-12, had the new Penn State Management Guides available

Operations Updates

- Changed approaches this treatment season: moving away from herbicide and utilizing more systemic and broadcast insecticide treatments
- Properties are chosen using a scoring matrix to determine priority
- Treatment done so far this season:
 - 17 contractors were used through September 3
 - 298 properties have been treated
 - 23 counties have treatment activity
 - 31,279 trees treated with systemic insecticide
 - 463 acres treated with contact insecticide
 - 4,510 trees treated with herbicide
 - 12.6 acres of saplings treated with herbicide

Statewide Reports

- Public reports as of 9/7/2021 were at 21,661; 20,185 of those were from last week
- Region 3 (includes Bradford, Sullivan, Luzerne, Wyoming, Susquehanna, Lackawanna, Monroe, Carbon, Wayne, and Pike Counties) had 1400 reports; 215 of those require follow-up visits because they are from areas outside of the quarantine or without known populations of SLF

Compliance and Enforcement Updates

- The C&E team conducted canvass trips in Altoona/Blair County in July and in Scranton/Lackawanna County in August
- Canvassing is when the whole team travels to a specific county to contact as many businesses as they can to discuss permitting
- High turnaround in businesses getting permitted after these trips
- Lucky also travels with the team and performs K9 inspections

David S. USDA Update

- USDA is going through a reorganization process – the Easton office will be closing, staffing in Easton is minimal currently, and staffing will be reorganized.
- USDA is moving to a more regional approach
- Despite minimal staffing, still getting some treatments done: treated LVIA, treated in Scranton near high volume trucking, intermodal, and near railyard
- There was an oceanfront, sand sighting of SLF at the Jersey shore, at Bayhead Beach

Outstanding Questions/Concerns:

1) *Is there any money available to the general public for control of SLF?* Unfortunately, there is no money available to the general public for SLF control. However, there was some funding provided to conservation districts for outreach – and local conservation districts might have some sticky bands or traps they could provide to local municipalities and/or homeowners.

Next Meeting

Quarterly seems to work well for the Community Task Force meetings. The next one will be in December – possibly the week of December 13. A poll will be sent out to finalize date/time that works best for all.