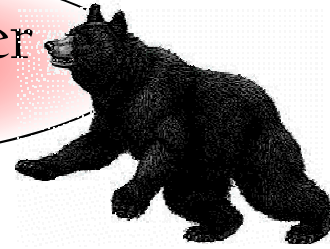




The Conservation Corner

June 2009



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A publication developed to highlight conservation efforts, programs and events throughout Hamilton County
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Invasive Insect Trapping Program

The HCSWCD is working with the New York State Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) to place and monitor invasive insect traps throughout Hamilton County. We are trapping for the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and the Brown Spruce Longhorned Beetle (BSLB).

The Problem

Invasive insects from Long Island to Michigan have already killed millions of trees, costing federal, state, and local governments \$100 million for tree removal and replacement and insect management. Entire tree species in NYS may be lost to infestation, adversely impacting the ecosystem. The economic loss to lumber, flooring, cabinet, maple syrup and baseball bat industries would be astronomical.

Insect Biology

The BSLB is the Invader of the Month, see page 2 for more info. Adult EAB attack healthy ash trees and feed on foliage, while larvae bore through the tree and consume phloem, a tissue that carries essential nutrients (sugar) throughout the plant. Infesta-



tion symptoms include canopy dieback, yellow or brown leaves, woodpecker damage, epicormic sprouting, s-shaped galleries, and D-shaped exit holes. After infestation, trees die in 2-3 years.

Don't Move Firewood

These invasive beetles are transported to new locations via firewood.



As of March 18, 2009, the firewood regulation was made permanent in the State Registrar to prevent the movement of invasive species into NYS forests via untreated firewood. The possession, sale, and movement of untreated firewood originating in NYS has been restricted by the DEC. Campers are encouraged to purchase wood from local sellers less than 50 miles away from their destination, or buy wood at campgrounds. More info: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/2359.html>

Invasive Insect Trapping Program

Do YOU want to help stop the invaders? Become involved

in the HCSWCD's Invasive Insect Trapping Program. Receive free training and traps for the EAB and BSLB.

EAB Survey

Survey Time: May-August

Host: All Ash species

Trap Type: Purple PRISM panel trap

Procedure: Place lure in trap, hang in ash grove 6ft above ground, service every 2 weeks by using forceps to collect metallic green beetles, mail beetles to Albany for identification.

BSLB Survey

Survey Time: July— September

Host:

Norway spruce

Trap

Type:



Intercept panel trap

Procedure: Place lure in trap, hang 1-2ft above ground, service every 2 weeks by using forceps to collect beetles, mail beetles to Albany for identification.

For more information or to become a volunteer, contact Caitlin at 518-548-3991. Special thanks to DEC campgrounds, CCE, and our volunteers for protecting our forests.

New York State Envirothon

The NYS Envirothon was held at Keuka College May 27-28, and high school students who won their county Envirothon were tested in Aquatics, Wildlife, Forestry, Soils, and this year's Current Issue Biodiversity in a Changing World. In addition to completing the 5 written exams, students also gave an oral presentation with a visual aid concerning Biodiversity in a Changing World that addressed what biodiversity is, why it is important, and a call to action that developed a state-wide biodiversity protection plan. Students were allowed 10 minutes for their oral presentation, with a 5 minute question/answer session with the judges. Hamilton County was represented by the Indian Lake Hip Waders, who placed 36th out of 54 counties. Candor High School of Tioga County placed first and will compete in the 2009 Canon Envirothon in North Carolina this August.



Chairman of the Board of Supervisors William G. Farber, Hank Evatt, John Miller, Jeremy DeShaw, Garrett LeBlanc, Merrill Pine, Adviser Sarah Boggia

In May, we recycled approx. 310 lbs of paper!

AQUATIC INVASIVE PLANT TRAINING

Help protect Adirondack waters from invasive species. Sign up for the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program's 8th annual aquatic invasive plant training and learn aquatic plant identification tips and survey techniques. Volunteers are asked to conduct an annual survey on an Adirondack lake of their choice to search for aquatic invasive plants.



Eurasian Watermilfoil

The training is free, but space is limited. Please RSVP by June 8th to Tyler Smith, Aquatic Invasive Species Project Coordinator, at tyler_smith@tnc.org or 518-576-2082 x119. All sessions are from 10am-2pm. June 16, Darrin Fresh Water Institute, Bolton Landing June 18, Goff-Nelson Memorial Library, Tupper Lake June 23, Hudson River-Black River Regulating District Field Office, Mayfield

Invader of the Month Brown Spruce Longhorn Beetle

Biology

The Brown Spruce Longhorn Beetle (BSLB) is native to Europe and has become established in Nova Scotia. Adults have a flattened, brown abdomen and a black to dark brown head covered with light hairs. Antennae are reddish-brown and 1/2 length of their

body. Two or three stripes appear on wing covers.

Problems

The BSLB attacks Spruce and damages healthy trees. Larvae burrow into cambium and phloem, disrupting the flow of nutrients. Girdling completely cuts off the flow of nutrients and kills the tree.



Symptoms

Oval to round exit holes are visible in bark. Resin oozes from trees and frass (sawdust-like feces) is often found at the base of trees. L-shaped galleries are found under the bark. Yellow or brown crown and needle loss occur after infestation.

What YOU Can Do

Don't move firewood, purchase wood from local sellers less than 50 miles away, buy wood at campgrounds, inspect trees for symptoms, become involved in the HCSWCD's Invasive Insect Trapping Pro-



gram, call the New York State Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey if you see a suspicious insect at 1-800-554-4501, ext. 72087.