

Be on the Alert for the Asian Longhorned Beetle

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) needs your help in preventing the spread of the Asian longhorned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*), a serious pest of hardwood trees.



The Asian longhorned beetle

An infestation of this insect has been found in or near this area. USDA employees, in cooperation with your State department of agriculture, are currently conducting surveys to determine the extent of the beetle infestation. These survey crews may ask to inspect trees in your yard and will appreciate your cooperation as they work to prevent the Asian longhorned beetle from reaching the forested areas of the United States, where it could devastate our trees. If trees in your yard or near your home are dead or dying and you suspect that this was caused by the Asian longhorned beetle, please notify the survey crew or call the authorities at (301) 734-5255.

While this pest does not pose a risk to human health, the Asian longhorned beetle is extremely dangerous to trees. It is known to attack healthy maple (including Norway, sugar, silver, red, and others), horsechestnut, poplar, willow, elm, mulberry, and black locust trees and may attack other hardwoods.

The large bullet-shaped beetle is coal black and shiny with white spots. Its body is about an inch long. On the head, it has horn-shaped antennae (feelers) that are black with white rings and longer than the insect itself. The plate-shaped feet are black with a whitish-blue upper surface.



The relative size of the Asian longhorned beetle



A single beetle egg has been deposited in this plugged hole

Telltale Signs

The white, wormlike immature beetles bore into tree trunks and branches, causing heavy sap flow from wounds and large sawdust accumulation at tree bases. Adult beetles leave round holes in the bark that are a half inch or larger in diameter. Yellowing leaves and leaf drop are other indicators that the pest is present.

Containing the Pest

APHIS needs your help to prevent the spread of this serious pest. Please do not move cut wood, stumps, or hardwood nursery stock from infested areas. If you must move cut or trimmed wood, please chip the wood before transporting from the area.

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