

**FORESTRY & WILDLIFE RESOURCES**  
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UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

*County Offices*

**Belknap County**  
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**Rockingham County**  
679-5616

**Strafford County**  
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863-9200

October 11, 2002

Dear Natural Resources Professional,

The hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) has been found in New Hampshire. It is a serious pest of hemlock trees.

**Three Infestations Found**

Before 2000, HWA was found on imported nursery stock, which was killed before an infestation spread. Since then, infestations have been found in Portsmouth, Peterborough, and Bedford.

In September 2001, an infestation in landscape hemlocks in Portsmouth's Elwyn Park area was confirmed. At the time, it was estimated it had been there undetected for at least three years. HWA is well established in Massachusetts. Birds may be responsible for spreading it to Portsmouth.

The Division of Forest and Lands used a combination of tree removal, treatment with horticultural oil and insecticide, and cultural actions such as trimming and removal of weakened trees to improve the vigor of the remaining trees.

Unfortunately, more infested trees were found in Portsmouth and the degree of infestation is too large to treat with chemicals or tree removal. They have released predacious beetles. Because HWA populations were high, it will take some time before the effectiveness of the beetles will be known.

In 2001, HWA was found in 3 trees in Peterborough. Infested branches were removed and remaining branches treated. Extensive inventory hasn't revealed other HWA.

HWA was found in Bedford this summer 2002. It was on 2 trees and infested branches were removed and remaining branches treated. Again extensive inventory hasn't uncovered other HWA.

**Action Plan Implementation**

An action plan developed by the Forest Pest Advisory Group (FPAG) is being followed. FPAG is an advisory group to the State Forester and legislature. Part of this plan involves public notification and enlisting the help of the public to look for HWA. We need your help. Be alert around hemlock and report field findings to the listed contacts. We have enclosed printed information and encourage you to distribute it to clients and others.



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The University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity educator and employer.  
University of New Hampshire, U.S. Department of Agriculture and N.H. counties cooperating.

In addition to alerting key individuals like yourself, we communicate with the general public through the media. Colored post cards showing HWA were mailed directly to homeowners in Portsmouth, Bedford and Peterborough.

Though we expect to see natural introduction of HWA from birds and wind, it continues to be important to prevent the introduction from human movement of nursery stock and hemlock logs.

#### **Preventing New Introductions – State of NH Quarantine**

The following must be adhered to in order to ship hemlock nursery stock and hemlock logs into New Hampshire.

1. Hemlock includes all member of the genera *Tsuga*.
2. A State Phytosanitary Certificate is required for plants originating in a regulated state. The Certificate must state that the said plants are inspected and “Free from Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.” A signed copy of the State Phytosanitary Certificate must also be faxed to the Division of Plant Industry at (603) 271-3692, within 3 days of issue. Chemical treatment for this pest cannot be substituted for and is not acceptable as freedom from this pest.
3. Quarantined States are: Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia, Alaska, California, Oregon, and Washington.
4. Plants from non-regulated states must be derived from a licensed or certified plant dealer or be accompanied by a State Phytosanitary Certificate.
5. Articles and commodities covered: Hemlock seedlings, hemlock nursery stock: hemlock logs with bark, hemlock lumber with bark, hemlock chips and uncomposted shipments of hemlock bark.
6. Notification. Any persons believed to have Hemlock Woolly Adelgid on his or her premises in New Hampshire, shall notify the Department of Agriculture, Division of Plant Industry or Department of Resources and Economic Development, Division of Forests and Lands. The presence of the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid on a property is subject to quarantine and eradication procedures. Failure to notify the proper authorities is a violation of this quarantine.

For a complete copy of this quarantine please contact the NH Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food, (603) 271-2561 or NH Division of Forests and Lands (603) 271-7858.

#### **Preventing Movement from Rockingham County by the Forest Industry**

Though it hasn't been officially declared, Rockingham County will be declared an internal New Hampshire quarantine area. Loggers, foresters, and truckers are advised to implement the following practices immediately. This applies to Rockingham County only. Hillsborough County is not affected since the Peterborough and Bedford incidents have been deemed eradicated.

All hemlock should be inspected whether as standing trees or logs at all times of the year (see list of inspectors below). If hemlock is uninspected, or inspected and found to be infested with HWA it must be processed within Rockingham County.



From March 1-July 30 all logs moving out of Rockingham County need a phytosanitary certificate from an inspector. From August 1-February 28 hemlock logs can move out of Rockingham County without a certificate, but they must be free of HWA. For assistance on identification of HWA please call contacts below.

At no time can infested logs be moved from Rockingham County.

At no time can hemlock logs be shipped from Rockingham County to Maine or any other uninfested states.

**Information for Sawmills**

Sawmills receiving hemlock logs from Rockingham County or any infested state need to have a compliance agreement with the State of NH. Contact the NH Department of Agriculture 271-2561 or NH Division of Forests and Lands 271-7858 for more information.

**The Future of Forests**

What does HWA mean for our forests? While it is still too early to tell, there is laboratory evidence that cold winters will control HWA. Observations in the field also support this theory. Specifically, there has been significant HWA populations south of Keene that hasn't moved. Speculation is that winter weather is limiting movement.

**Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Contacts**

Contact	For More Information	Inspect trees/or logs
Jen Bofinger, 271-7858	X	X
Kyle Lombard, 271-7858	X	X
John Dodge, 271-2217		X
Bryan Nowell, 271-2217		X
Tom Durkis, 271-2561	X	X
Stan Swier, 862-1733	X	
Forestry Information Center 1-800-444-8978	X	
Matt Tarr, 679-5616	X	X

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Karen P. Bennett  
 Extension Specialist  
 Forest Resources  
 UNH Cooperative Extension



Jen Bofinger  
 Forest Health Specialist  
 NH Division of Forests and Lands

