

## ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE UPDATE



### Massachusetts ALB Cooperative Eradication Program



January 2010

---

*The following information was provided by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation:*

#### **Overview**

Massachusetts' eradication efforts began August 5, 2008. The Worcester cooperative program is headed by: Clint McFarland, Federal Program Manager, APHIS; and Ken Gooch, State Program Director, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation. Program Administrators are: Christine Markham, National ALB Director, APHIS; and Jeff Daley, Sr. Policy Advisor, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation.

#### **Regulated Zone**

The Worcester ALB Eradication program currently manages a 74 square mile quarantine zone that encompasses the entire physical boundaries of the City of Worcester and the Town of West Boylston as well as partial areas within the towns of Shrewsbury, Holden and Boylston.

#### **Surveying**

Ground survey continues to focus on identifying boundaries; however, due to the dense tree inventory in the core area, it is difficult to predict any timeline as to when the boundaries will be solidified.

The most current detections have occurred in West Boylston, areas north and west of Indian Lake in Worcester, and the newest infestation in the Town of Boylston. This is the first detection in this town since the program inception. The current regulated area will not change because of these current detections.

#### **Removals**

Infested tree removals began the week of 12/18/09 at the YMCA property at 75 Shore Drive. Other removal crews will be deployed after the first of the New Year.

Last year during the peak of the adult emergence, beetles were being captured and reported by the hundreds. This year, due to the program response and

immediate implementation of the eradication protocols, only 30 beetles have been captured.

### **Research**

Research with pheromone attractants continues. Additional research on chemical treatments, regulatory treatments and trap trees is ongoing.

### **Chemical Treatments**

Currently, there are no treatments taking place. Treatment is anticipated to begin in the core area of the infestation (Burncoat/Greendale) in spring 2010.

### **Replanting and Reforestation**

In addition to the City's replanting efforts, the ALB Eradication program has completed 2009 planting efforts. Paid by Federal dollars, 548 trees have been planted with an additional 300 trees scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2010. Project plans are being finalized for the \$4.7M ARRA grant to fund replanting in 2010.

## **Program by the Numbers**

### **Program launched**

August 5, 2008

### **Regulated Zone, 1<sup>st</sup> Amended Order**

33 square miles

September 3, 2008

### **Regulated Zone, 7<sup>th</sup> Amended Order**

74 square miles

September 26, 2009

### **Contractor Compliance Agreements**

792 total

### **Completed Tree Surveys**

230,753 surveys

193,634 in 2009

### **Infested Trees Identified**

16,822 total

11,709 in 2009

16,714 in Worcester

32 in Holden

70 in West Boylston  
6 in Boylston

**Removals**

First removal January 5, 2009  
15,149 infested total  
10,250 high risk totals

**Research**

100 traps placed  
9 female beetles captured

**Reforestation**

548 trees planted  
300 additional trees scheduled for spring planting  
\$4.7M ARRA funding awarded

**Staff**

43 USDA staff members  
11 DCR staff members