

ALERT: Spotted Lanternfly—A *Destructive Pest!*

Attacks in Swarms

These nasty pests can destroy trees and make your outdoor spaces unlivable. Spotted Lanternfly often invade your yard in swarms. They damage trees, fly into your face and leave trails of droppings that attract stinging wasps.

Based on research by Penn State, PA Department of Agriculture and USDA, Giroud has identified the best strategies to protect trees from damage and control this foul pest.



Damage

A. High Risk Trees: Spotted Lanternfly attack many trees that are common in our yards. Highest risk trees include: Maples (especially Red and Silver), Willows, Walnuts, Japanese Snowbells, Birch, Locust, Grapevines and several varieties of fruit trees.

B. Impact: SLF tap into trees like a straw, suck out tree sap and shower droppings when they feed.

1. Tree Damage: Oozing sap, wilting, leaf curling and even tree death.
2. Dripping Excrement: With so many feeding at once, the droppings (aka “Honeydew”) can look like rain pouring down from the tree. Honeydew coats everything under the tree, including cars, hardscapes and decking.
3. Stinging Wasps: Black, sooty mold grows on the Honeydew and attracts stinging wasps (*pictured*). The combination of Honeydew and black, sooty mold also creates an unpleasantly sour stench.



Control

SLF is not easy to control. Penn State warns that SLF is very mobile and management actions must be continuous to keep them off your property. As a property owner, you have the power to help stop this pest. Here are the actions you can take and the best timing:

1. DIY Control by Property Owner:

a) October-April: Destroy Egg Masses.

Check trees, understory plants and even under and sides of walls, cars, grills and lawn furniture for mud-like egg masses. To destroy, scrape off into a bag that contains rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer.

b) May-July: Stop SLF Nymphs.

- Wrap high risk trees with sticky bands. Surround the bands with chicken wire to prevent accidentally trapping wildlife. Replace bands every two weeks! Circle traps are also an option. (*Photo Credit: nysipm.cornell.edu*)
- Spot treat. If a particular plant is under heavy attack, spray Neem Oil or insecticidal soap directly on the Nymphs. Follow all label directions. This is a temporary solution. Chemical control on high risk trees will be needed for long-term protection.

2. Host Reduction (Year-round): Remove Tree of Heaven and grind down the stump as deeply as possible. If sprouts pop-up, hand pull or kill with herbicide.

3. Chemical Control by PA Licensed Professional (May-Mid-November): Research has shown that Beta-Cyfluthrin, Dinotefuran and Bifenthrin yield excellent results. All three herbicides kill SLF. The choice depends on time of year and the pest’s lifecycle stage.



Giroud Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) Control Program

Giroud's Program is based on the latest guidance from Penn State, PA Department of Agriculture and USDA. Our PA Certified Technicians are specially licensed for Spotted Lanternfly control. During SLF season, our team vigilantly monitors each stage of development. Chemical controls are applied at the stages when the pest is most vulnerable to treatment.

A. Chemical Control:

1. **Target Trees:** SLF feeds on over 70 species of trees. Giroud recommends protecting only the high-risk trees that are most valuable to your landscape.
2. **Timing and Treatments:**
 - a) **May-July:** Recommended only when populations are high or specific plants are under intense pressure. Beta-Cyfluthrin is sprayed on trunks, limbs and foliage to kill the Nymphs on contact and when they crawl on treated surfaces for up to 30 days.
 - b) **July-Mid-September:** Dinotefuran is applied as a Basal Trunk Spray. For a few weeks after treatment, SLF are killed on contact or when they crawl on treated surfaces. After the insecticide is absorbed through the tree's vascular system, SLF are killed when they feed on the tree for up to 60 days.
 - c) **September-Mid-November:** Bifenthrin is sprayed on trees (*pictured*) to kill SLF on contact and when they walk over treated surfaces for up to 30 days.
3. **Number of Treatments Required:** In Nymph stage, one treatment can be applied if pest populations and activity warrant. Early in the adult stage around July/August, a systemic is recommended followed by a systemic or contact treatment in Fall. This approach targets adult SLF when pressure is most intense. The exact number of treatments depends on when the adults emerge and timing of your first application.
4. **Fertilization:** Fertilizing trees is also important to promote healing and build strength.



B. Destroy Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus*):

While SLF attacks many of trees, Tree of Heaven (*pictured*) is its favorite host tree. Any Tree of Heaven on or near your property will attract SLF. That's why, this tree must be destroyed.

Our Tree Care team is trained to handle *Ailanthus*. It's not simple. The tree has no natural predators and spreads fast. We recommend removing the tree and grinding the stump down as deeply as possible.



C. Action:

The first step is to have your Giroud ISA Certified Arborist inspect your property for Spotted Lanternfly and determine the best steps for control.

**Protect Your Trees from Spotted Lanternfly
Get a Free Evaluation Today!**

Call: 215-682-7704

Visit: www.giroudtree.com/spotted-lanternfly