



United States Department of Agriculture

Forest Service

Allegheny National Forest
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News Release

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Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Workshop Scheduled for November 24 in Kane

Warren, Pa. (November 16, 2015) – The High Allegheny Hemlock Partnership is holding a free Hemlock Woolly Adelgid workshop to train volunteers on how to identify and report hemlock woolly adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*) infestations. The session will be held on Tuesday, November 24 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Kane Fire Hall, 50 Poplar St., Kane, PA.

The hemlock woolly adelgid is a tiny nonnative (introduced to United States from Asia) invasive insect that is attacking and killing hemlock trees across Pennsylvania and many eastern states. The hemlock is an important part of the forest ecosystem because it provides thermal cover for wildlife; habitat for a number of arthropods, birds, and mammals; shade along streams and springs; and contributes nutrients to aquatic systems. It is also valued for its year-round green foliage and spiritual values, and is the Pennsylvania state tree.

The High Allegheny Hemlock Partnership was established to take a collaborative and proactive approach to maintain forests in the ANF region in a healthy state for current and future generations. Members include: The Nature Conservancy; Allegheny National Forest; Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, New York Department of Environmental Conservation, U.S. Forest Service Northern Research Station, U.S. Forest Service State and Private Forestry, universities, conservation organizations, and several large industrial forest land owners.

For more information or to register for the event, please contact Sarah Johnson at The Nature Conservancy (TNC) sejohnson@tnc.org.

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The U.S. Forest Service is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, with a mission of sustaining the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The Forest Service's Eastern Region has 17 national forests and one national tallgrass prairie located throughout 20 Midwestern and Eastern states. We're spread from Maine to Minnesota and from Maryland to Missouri. For more information, visit www.fs.usda.gov/R9.

The U.S. Forest Service manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. The public lands that the Forest Service manages, contribute more than \$13 billion to the economy each year through visitor spending alone. Those same lands provide 20 percent of the nation's clean water supply, a value estimated at \$7.2 billion per year. The agency has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 80 percent of the 850 million forested acres within the U.S. and includes 100 million acres that are urban forests where most Americans live. For more information, visit www.fs.usda.gov/.

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