



Non-Native Invasive Species: Why Should You Care?



Rosalie Santerre
Potomac Highlands CWPMA

What are Invasive Species?



Are all non native species invasive?



What qualities make species invasive?



- Rapid Growth Rate
- High Seed Production
- No Predators
- Early Germination

Cause Environmental and/or Economic Damage!

How did they get here?

- Intentionally
- Accidentally



What do we have to lose?

West Virginia

- Wood products industry = \$4 billion annually and 30,000 jobs.
- Recreational pursuits= \$803 million annually.



What do we have to lose?

- The forests contribute to the overall quality of life by
 - reducing energy costs
 - lowering pollution
 - protecting watersheds from erosion and sedimentation
 - providing for long -term carbon sequestration
 - improving air quality



WHY SHOULD WE CARE?

- If left unchecked, invasive species will limit many uses on lands now and for future generations
- The wetlands, prairies, forests, lakes, and rivers as we know and love them may be less diverse and vibrant for our children





An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

- Save Time
- Save Energy
- Save Money
- Protect Native Landscapes!

What YOU Can Do....

- Don't plant invasive plants.
- Don't move firewood.
- Clean equipment, clothing and gear when moving between different outdoor activities.
- Manage invasive species on your land, look to your extension agent for more information
- Contact the Potomac Highlands CWPMA to report infestations and learn more about how to manage them



Lets Learn to Identify Some!

- 5 plants
- 3 insects
- 2 diseases

Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)



Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)



Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*)



Autumn olive

(*Elaeagnus umbellata*
var. *parvifolia*)



Japanese Stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*)



Eurasian Water Milfoil

(*Myriophyllum spicatum*)



Emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*)



Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

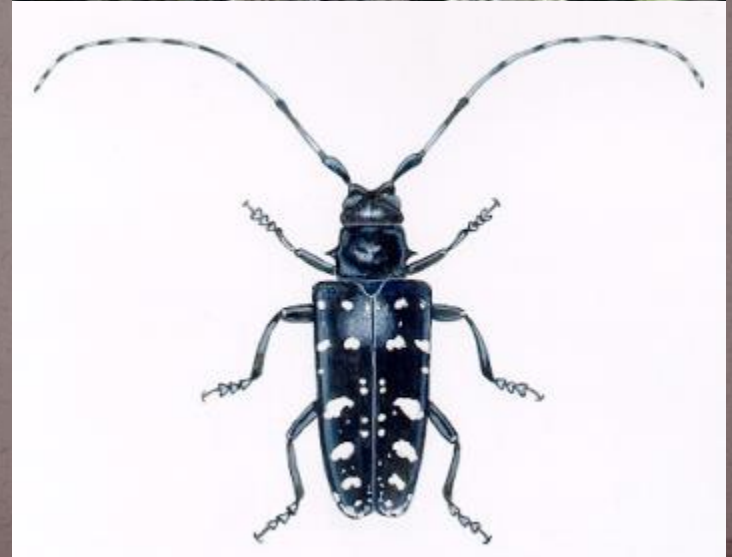
(*Adelges tsugae*)



An adelgid nymph feeding on a hemlock needle (left); crawlers in their protective cottony nests (above).



Asian Long horned beetle – (*Anoplophora glabripennis*)



Asian long horned beetle –

(*Anoplophora glabripennis*)

Trees at Risk:

- Ash
- Birches
- Elm
- European mountain ash
- Hackberry
- Horsechestnut
- Maple
- Mimosa
- Poplars
- Willow

Beech Bark Disease

Cryptococcus fasisuga, *Nectria* spp.



American Chestnut Blight-

Endothia parasitica

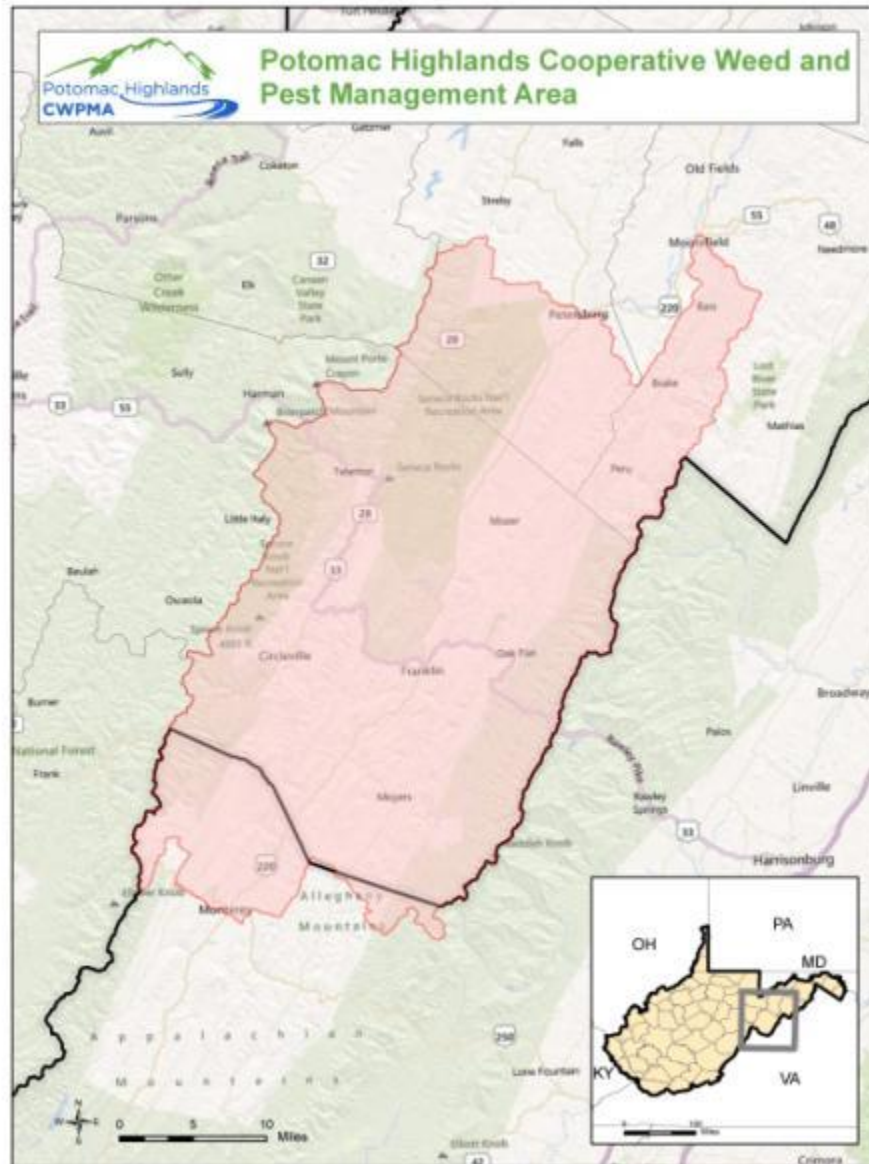


What is the Potomac Highlands Cooperative Weed and Pest Management Area?





Potomac Highlands Cooperative Weed and Pest Management Area





The Nature Conservancy



Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

