

Email from Pocono lake preserve subject: Management of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) on Leaseholds 10/25/2018

Management of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) on Leaseholds

We recently shared an update on the Board's planning process for the management of HWA (**HWA 2018 Community Update**) on the forest lands of the Preserve. In this letter we would like to share information about what you can do on your leasehold if you have specific trees that you would like to protect.

Basal Bark Spray is a viable treatment option for individual or small groups of Hemlock trees that works well. It uses 3 chemicals: dinotefuran, a fast-acting chemical, imidacloprid, a long-lasting chemical, and pentra bark, a product that helps the chemical penetrate the tree. Only the bottom 5 feet of the trunk is sprayed, and the treatment is projected to last up to 7 years.

Applications are applied in the spring or fall because Hemlocks shut down in the warmer weather. The treatment is systemic, which means the chemicals are absorbed inside the tree and cannot be washed off. Other methods of spraying the outside of the whole tree with pesticides or insecticidal soap can be washed off and are not recommended.

If interested in having treatment in the spring, please contact the Shop at plpshop@ptd.net. Services will be provided by a licensed contractor. Pricing depends on the actual diameter of the tree but as an example:

12" diameter tree measured at the base would be \$118.00

24" Diameter tree measured at the base would be \$224.00

Trees larger than 24" would of course be higher and trees between 12" and 24" would fall in-between. We may be able to negotiate bulk pricing if enough members are interested.

In addition to biological and silvicultural methods, chemical treatment is one of the 3 methods for addressing HWA which we will be employing in our balanced program of pest management. Chemical treatment is recommended for use at the leasehold scale. And, it is important that we monitor its usage to adhere to application guidelines for coverage and to monitor effectiveness. We expect this to be a multi-year activity which may cover a variety of areas of the Preserve. As such, we have implemented a GIS system to centralize the chemical treatment data, as well as the other HWA management practices we will utilize.

Currently, we are tracking:

1. Location
2. Date treated
3. Tree condition at time of treatment
4. The application method
5. The chemicals used and their per acre concentrations

Thank you for considering the protection of hemlocks on your leasehold. Hemlocks are a foundation species; the forest is created by their presence.

PLP Environmental Affairs Committee