

District of Columbia Urban Forestry Advisory Council Meeting Agenda

DATE: Wednesday, January 11, 2023
TIME: 10:00 AM – 12:00 AM
LOCATION: Web-Ex

Meeting Chair - DDOT	Earl Eutsler	Earl.eutsler@dc.gov	202.673.6813
Meeting Chair - DOEE	Steve Saari	Steve.saari@dc.gov	202.535.2961
Meeting Scribe	Erica Carlsson	Erica.carlsson@dc.gov	202.934.3307
Meeting Title	UFAC Winter Meeting		

Council Members:

Steve Saari, DOEE	Allison Clausen, comm. rep.	Brenda Richardson, comm. rep.
Earl Eutsler, DDOT	Carol Herwig, comm. rep	Angela Scott, DGS
Maureen Alonso, GSA	Maureen Holman, DC Water	Brent Sisco, DPR
Patrick Campbell, NPS	Nathan McElroy, Pepco	Shoshana Sommer, comm. rep

Invited Guests:

Annie Acostia, comm.	Dennis Chestnut, comm.	Evan Johnson, GSA	Mary Pat Rowan, comm.
Iris Allen, MD DNR	Sally Claggett, USFS	Craig Larcenaire, USFS	Joi Ruffin, DCPS
Michael Alonzo, American	Kelly Collins Choi, Casey Trees	Joseph Luebke, GSA	Deborah Shapley, RMA
Matthew Baker, UMBC	Robert Corletta, DDOT	Julie Mawhorter, USFS	Rob Shaut, Casey Trees
Spenser Balog, Casey Trees	Liz Crafford, comm.	Peter Norden, DPR	Nancy Sonti, USFS
John Boland, Casey Trees	Merrit Drucker, Ward 8 Woods	Rasma Plato, GSA	Catherine Stratton Treadway, comm.
Mark Buscaino, Casey Trees	Stephanie Free, NCPC	Ashlyn Pouvaranukoah, comm.	Matt Weber, DOEE
Delores Bushong, comm.	Stephen Gyor, OP	Phillip Rodbell, USFS	Kasey Yturalde, DDOT
Matt Chambers, comm.	Nathan Harrington, Ward8Woods	Darryl Ross, comm.	

SCHEDULE:

TIME	Agenda Item
10:00-10:10	Welcome, Introductions & Minutes - Erica Carlsson, DOEE & Earl Eutsler DDOT UFD (10 min)
10:10-10:15	Legislative Update - Kelly Collins-Choi, Casey Trees (5 min)
10:15-10:25	Casey Trees Land Trust Conservation Easements Presentation - Casey Trees (10 min)
10:25-10:35	Forest Health Updates - DDOT Urban Forestry Division (10 min)
10:35-10:45	Presentation: Repurposing the Capital Christmas Tree - Earl Eutsler DDOT UFD (10 min)
10:45-10:55	Langdon Park Forest Patch Project Update - partners (10 min)
10:55-11:05	Announcements & Closing Remarks (10 min)

Quorum (1/5 of members): YES

Meeting Notes

TIME	Agenda Item
10:00-10:10	Welcome, Introductions & Minutes - Erica Carlsson, DOEE & Earl Eutsler DDOT UFD (10 min)
10:10-10:15	<p>Legislative Update - Kelly Collins-Choi, Casey Trees (5 min)</p> <p>New updates to The Committee on Transportation and the Environment.</p> <p>CHAIRPERSON</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen <p>COUNCILMEMBERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ward 3 Councilmember Matthew Frumin At-Large Councilmember Christina Henderson Ward 4 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George Ward 5 Councilmember Zachary Parker <p>Casey Trees will report on Tree Conservation efforts at performance oversight hearings in February.</p>
10:15-10:25	<p>Casey Trees Land Trust Conservation Easements Presentation - Casey Trees (10 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Casey Trees Land Conservation Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why Conserve Land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DC is expected to add ~ 200,000 new residents over the next 20 years. Between 2015 and 2020 DC lost considerable tree canopy to development primarily in wards 5,7 and 8. DPR's newly released Ready2Play plan estimated DC needs over 2,000 acres to keep up with new population growth. Their goal is to gain 100 new acres by 2040. How do we conserve land? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Casey trees became a certified Land Trust in 2008. They conserve land through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> conservation easements, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voluntary agreement that restricts development on a property for the purpose of conservation in perpetuity. Becomes part of the property deed. Restricts impervious surface (<5% land area), dumping, the introduction of invasive species, and residential/commercial/industrial uses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CT monitors easements annually even though landowner manages. CT assists in management to include community stewardship. CT holds 5 easements including Crispus Attucks Park (community-owned – private land), and 4 on vacant properties (DC Department of Housing and Community Development) CT can own easements on City property but not Federal property. fee-simple purchase, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CT owns one community forest property adjacent to Rock Creek Park Cemetery

- discount Tax Sales, and
- land donation.
- Conservation Priorities
 - Ecologically Sensitive Areas
 - Forest patches and wildlife habitat
 - Wetlands
 - Stream buffers/restoration sites
 - 100-year floodplain
 - Steep slopes
 - Community Greenspace
 - Urban Farms and Community Gardens
 - Planting opportunities
 - Heat island mitigation and flood storage
 - Health equity
- Targeting Land Conservation
 - GIS tool to target Land conservation areas that utilize ecological, demographic, and health data.
 - Example Fort Lincoln and Nash Run (Tax Sale)
- Forest Conservation Opportunities
 - Private Property tax incentives
 - City-owned natural areas and vacant properties
 - Development projects – PUD Community Benefit Agreements
 - Federal Funding – Inflation Reduction Act
 - Restoration/Preservation Projects
 - Voluntary Carbon Markets
- Contact: kcollinschoi@caseytrees.org and sbalog@caseytrees.org

Questions

- DHC properties – continue only with legal instrument applied – that is correct
- Any more candidate sites? – not offered yet. Discussions with them
- Ghost/paper alleys – will that fall under easement- potentially
- Council Legislation introduced to the unbuilt alley and estimate the expense with constructing a conventional alley
- Any legislative approach at Casey Trees for city-owned properties? – exploring with agency properties – DPR is going to work with NPS to spell out how the transfer addresses conservation easements
- DOEE was approached about a patch of land along Southern avenue that has a gap – the land is privately held but the owner can't develop it. So, looking for some way to lower tax costs
- DGS – forest patches that are under their ownership – not much response – ways to work with them Brent is happy to reach out to people at DGS
- Can a portion of a property be put under an easement? i.e. floodplain, wetland, forested area that is only a % of total parcel? YES
- Has there been a comprehensive survey of Forest Patches in the city? – Mike Alonzo and Matt Baker put together to put patches together – not yet comprehensive
- Are you reforesting Blue Plains? – Maureen Holman at DC water would address the DC water site. – land east of DC water architect of the capitol, fire, EMS, and several forested patches.

10:25-10:35

Forest Health Updates - DDOT Urban Forestry Division (10 min)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New funding – USFS – Bipartisan infrastructure fund. 2022 Fall for states (state forest action plan) – put in an application for soil testing and community outreach (forest health and invasive species). Some as well focusing on invasive species and have submitted funds for spotted lantern fly removal of the preferred host. • Invasive insect - <i>Lycorma delicatula</i> (Spotted Lantern Fly) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Introduced in 2014 and host is tree (tree of heaven – preferred host is also invasive) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work to prepare for potential infestation: ▪ Meetings with Wildlife team at DOEE ▪ Website - (https://trees.dc.gov/pages/invasive-species-spotted-lantern-fly) ▪ Materials at DC state fair ▪ Reporting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens can report (29 reports in 2022) on website <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 7 confirmed as Spotted Lantern Fly – only reported adults. ○ Need photos to be sure ○ Several look-alikes ▪ Trapping (since 2019) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circle trap located near hitchhiking locations including trains, dumps, by cars. • Currently none found in traps ▪ Active management of <i>Ailanthus altissima</i> (Tree of Heaven) – preferred host in 2023. ▪ District Wide meetings available to public • <i>Acanthococcus lagerstroemiae</i> (Crape Myrtle bark scale) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Introduced to Texas in 2004 and spreading in southern US states ○ First reports in DC in 2020. In 2022 – many reports from residents ○ What is at risk? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Impacting Crape Myrtle and some on American Beauty Berry ○ What can be done? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pesticides (may impact non targets) ▪ Looking into other options <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oil, natural enemies (integrated pest management) ○ What are we doing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stop planting currently ▪ Added to forest health website ▪ Sharing and collaborating (Architect of Capitol, USFS, and Smithsonian) • Bark and Ambrosia beetle invasive trapping in summer 2022 – results not in yet. • Keeping an eye on recurring jumping oak galls <p>Q& A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spotted lantern fly – preferred tree of heaven – non-native invasive. What is the neg ecological outcome that would take out a nonnative invasive? – 70 other tree species that can be attached including red maple and walnut • Crepe Myrtle Scale – have the dormant oil treatments been effective? Haven’t tried it yet. Mechanical removal effective – scrubbing with soap and water to remove mold.
10:35-10:45	<p>Presentation: Repurposing the Capital Christmas Tree - Earl Eutsler DDOT UFD (10 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022 US Capitol Christmas Tree Ruby - 78 foot tall Red Spruce at Capitol for a month <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Harvested from the Pisgah National Forest in NC in Early November ○ Prior to being shipped to the US Capitol, Ruby received a tribal blessing from the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians. ○ Ornaments are made by students from the state where the tree originated. ○ DDOT UFD received in early January and will hold material until USFS determines preferred end use (mill and lumbar returned to NC). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Historically been chipped up and mulched. • Last year USFS and Architect to repurpose the US Capitol Christmas tree

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sugar Bear – white spruce was milled by UFD and returned to Six Rivers National Forest in CA last spring. ○ Will be feature in the next season of The Craftsman, which features a carpenter based in Eureka, CA. • Idea Public Charter School Partnership - Deanwood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Had carpentry class out to mill and they milled board and use to repair fence on Klinge Valley trail in Ward 3. Next up for them is completing the wood kiln. <p>Q & A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who pays for the trucking of the milled Lumbar? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Company that brought the tree from CA agreed to carry it as a piggyback load for free. • Household Christmas trees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trees still have decorations. What happens with those that are still decorated? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Program run by DPW – believe it is all collected and private tree service and recycler and composts it down. Machines can probably manage. • Urban wood reuse program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is the wait list? DDOT to follow up offline for a school program. Dashboard online.
10:45-10:55	<p>Langdon Park Forest Patch Project Update - partners (10 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Langdon Park Forest Patch (2.2 acres) – DPR property in Ward 5. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Heat island and forest loss concerns ○ 2 years ago, site was overgrown so the Citizen Science group rescued trees, completed seedling inventory, advocacy, and natural regeneration research. ○ Partnered with DPR, DDOT, and Casey Trees • Citizens Science Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cataloging and inventorying tiny forest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total Native Seedlings identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tiny Forest 2021: 174 • Tiny Forest 2022: 163 new • Research Plots 2022: 369 • Total: 706 seedlings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vast majority are Catalpa. ○ Ongoing Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does treatment type have the same effects in the second year? ▪ What will survivorship be from year one to year two? ▪ What species will germinate in the second year? ▪ How will seedling count change? ▪ Will invasive management time decrease? ▪ What other factors influence germination? Existing Invasives? Sunlight? Slope? Soil Conditions? Prior Land use? • What Next? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Langdon Park Forest Patch as a pilot (featured at Forests in Cities conference this past November as a model for stewarding natural areas) ○ Better define the ecological services the forest patch offers to the city ○ Advocate for forest patch protection and conservation easements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Example Queens Chapel and Evarts St NE proposed for fire station development. ○ Continue to flag baby trees, remove invasive vines, and encourage people to enjoy nature in the city. ○ Casey Trees Community Workday on MLK ○ No Mow area <p>Q & A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Feedback – start in late spring or summer for community outreach for the no-mow zone

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Langdon Park Recreation Center renovation project. The solicitation may start in the summer starting with the design. • Any nearby proposed brownfield sites that could be proposed for the fire station? Unknown, but ANC connecting with DGS. • What training were you required to have to take care of this patch (forest management, invasives, among others)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Landscape Architect and native plant specialist on the team. The lesson learned is someone must have detailed native plant ID skills to lead the project. ○ Approval from DPR for each part of the process and great support from partners. Tools to assist improve success. ○ Focus on rescuing trees by controlling invasives and tree stewardship. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training from Casey Trees and Weed Warrior training. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Casey Trees Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant – work under their umbrella to expand scope and research plots • The model that Rock Creek Conservancy uses in Rock Creek Park has been very effective with the NPS Weed Warrior Program there. • How to document best practices? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Forest and Cities Program DC agencies are involved in. The program focuses on the conservation of natural forested areas. Langdon Park can be a case study with documentation. <p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation shows more resources in DC are needed budgetarily and staffing-wise to support this work for the budget hearing.
10:55-11:05	<p>Announcements & Closing Remarks (10 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APAC working with Brenda, Katherine, and Liz started the Citizens Forest Health Working Group. Started meeting in 2021 and have completed two clean-ups of invasive and beaver management in Watts Branch. Community Luncheon is planned in June to engage the Ward 7 community. • Anacostia Watershed Society will plant 300 Trees at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens – NPS. This area has been impacted by emerald ash borer. Started this work in 2017 on MD side of the river. • DPR shout out to DDOT UFD for a playhouse at 19th and Lamont for kids using recycled wood from DDOT's program. • DPR Ready2Play Plan public comment period is open through the end of January. Please make your comments regarding tree conservation, environmental education and recreation, and natural resource management. • Thank you to Rob from Casey trees and DDOT to work with Shoshana Sommer to improve ward 5 and Eckington highlighting industrialized areas for improve tree coverage and planting. DDOT has facilitated 311 records and assists.

Land Conservation

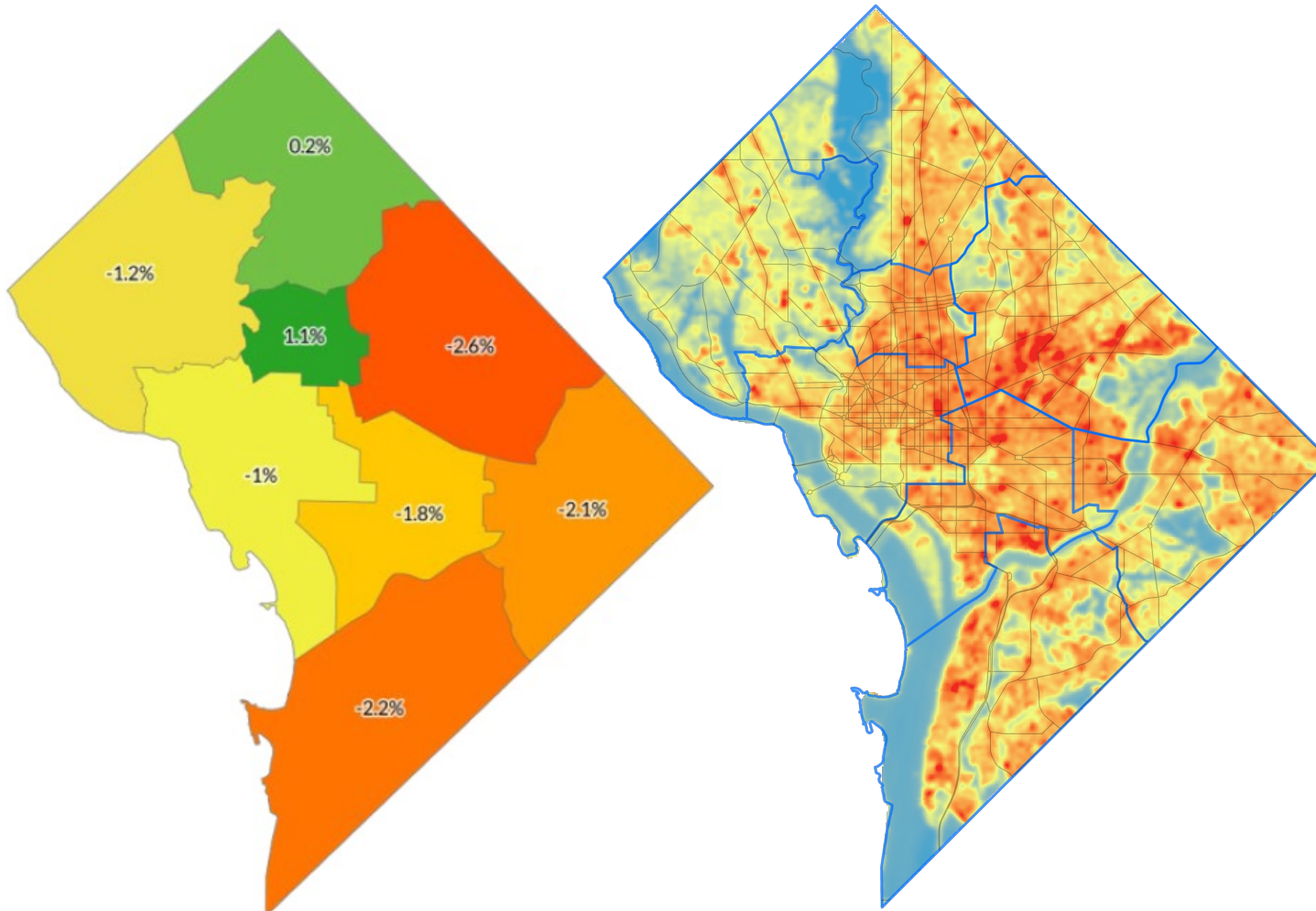


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Why conserve land?

Canopy Change by Ward, 2015-2020



Ready2Play DC

How do we conserve land?

- Conservation Easements
- Fee-simple Purchase
- Discount Tax Sales
- Land Donation



Conservation Priorities

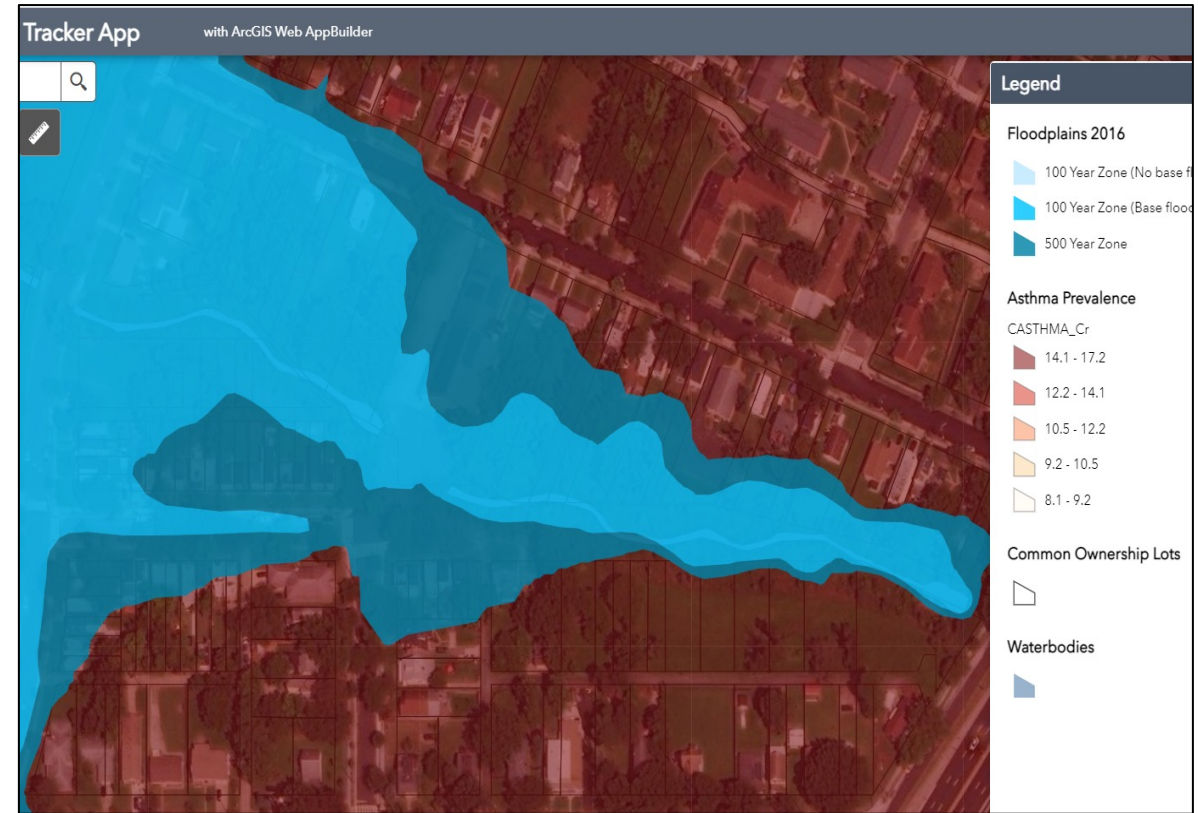
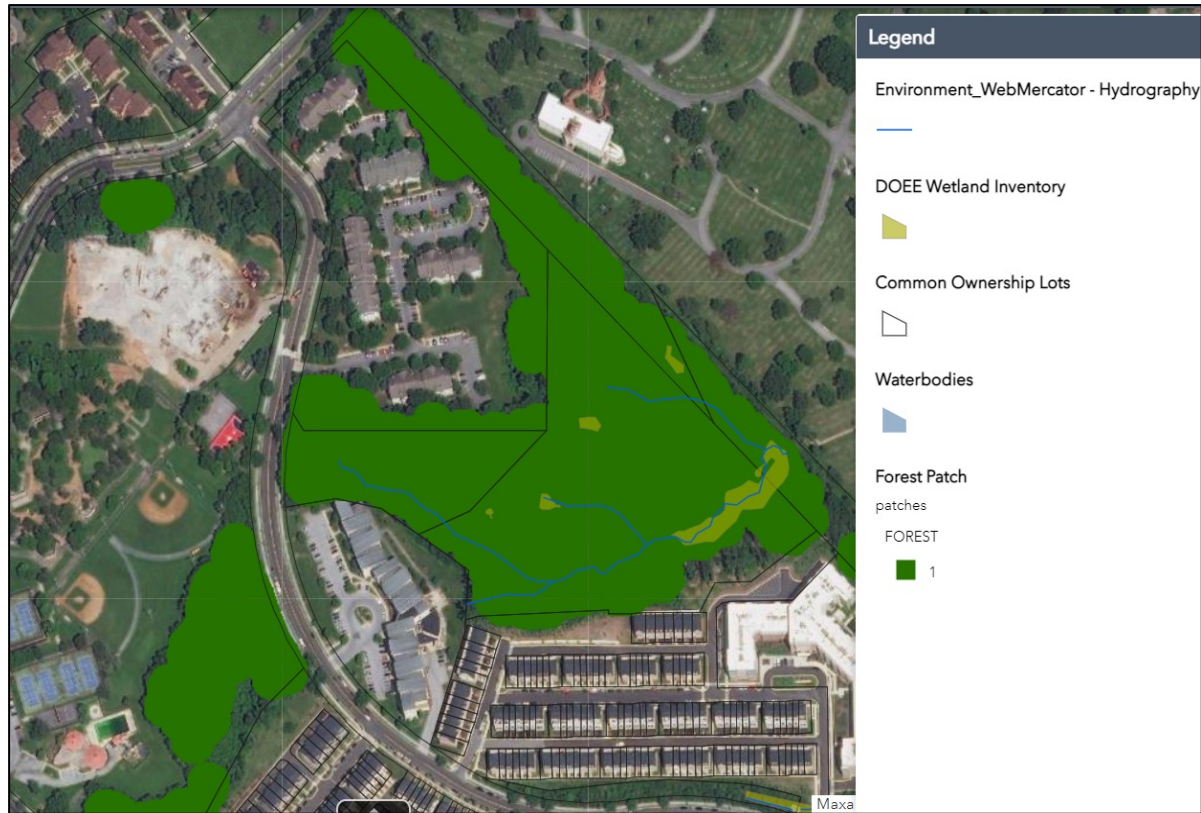
Ecologically Sensitive Areas

- Forest patches and wildlife habitat
- Wetlands
- Stream buffers/restoration sites
- 100 year Floodplain
- Steep slopes

Community Greenspace

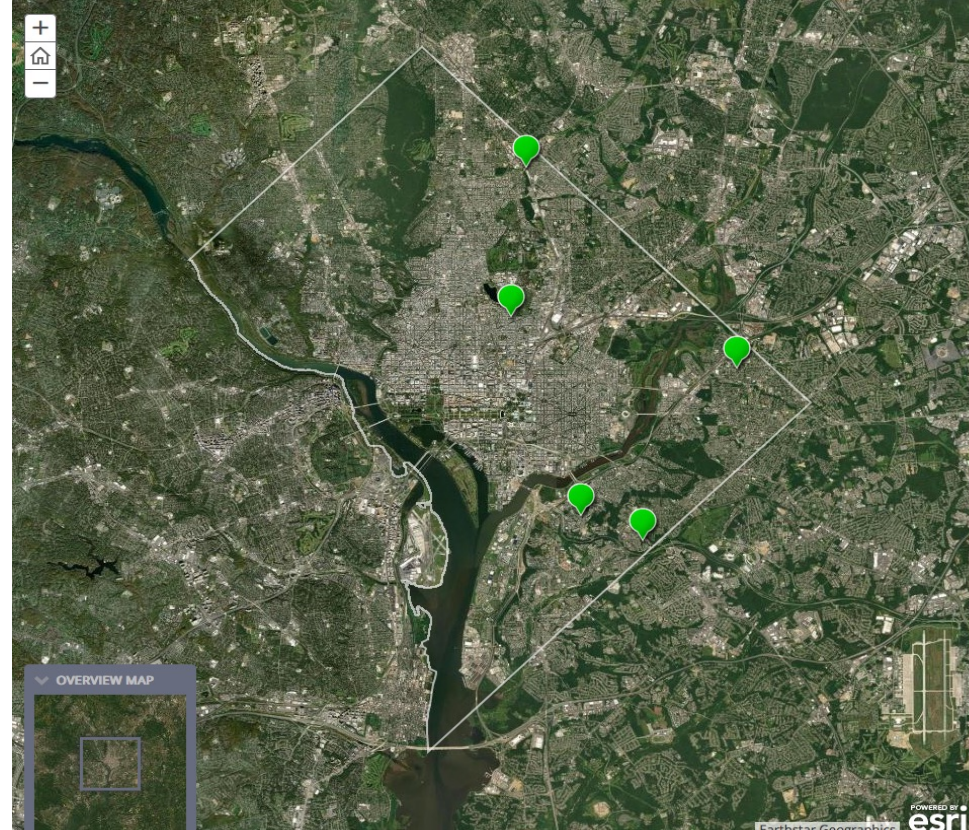
- Urban farms and community gardens
- Planting opportunities
- Heat island mitigation and flood storage
- Health equity

Targeting Land Conservation



Conservation Easements

A conservation easement is a legal and voluntary agreement that restricts development on a property for the purpose of conservation in perpetuity (forever). Becomes part of the property deed.



Easement Provisions

- Impervious Surface Limits (<5% land area)
- No dumping
- No introduction of invasive species
- No residential/commercial/industrial uses
- Maintenance responsibility resides with landowner

Stewardship

- Restore site conditions
- Enhance ecology of the site and public benefit
- Protect ecological and cultural assets from threats



Forest Conservation Opportunities

- Private property tax incentives
- City-owned natural areas and vacant properties
- Development projects – PUD Community Benefit Agreements
- Federal Funding – Inflation Reduction Act
- Restoration/Preservation Projects
- Voluntary Carbon Markets

Contact Us:

Easement Nomination Form:

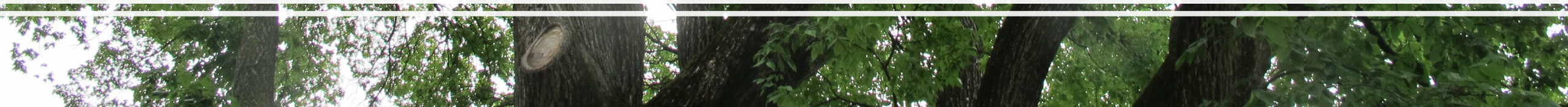
caseytrees.org/conservation-easement-nominations

kcollinschoi@caseytrees.org

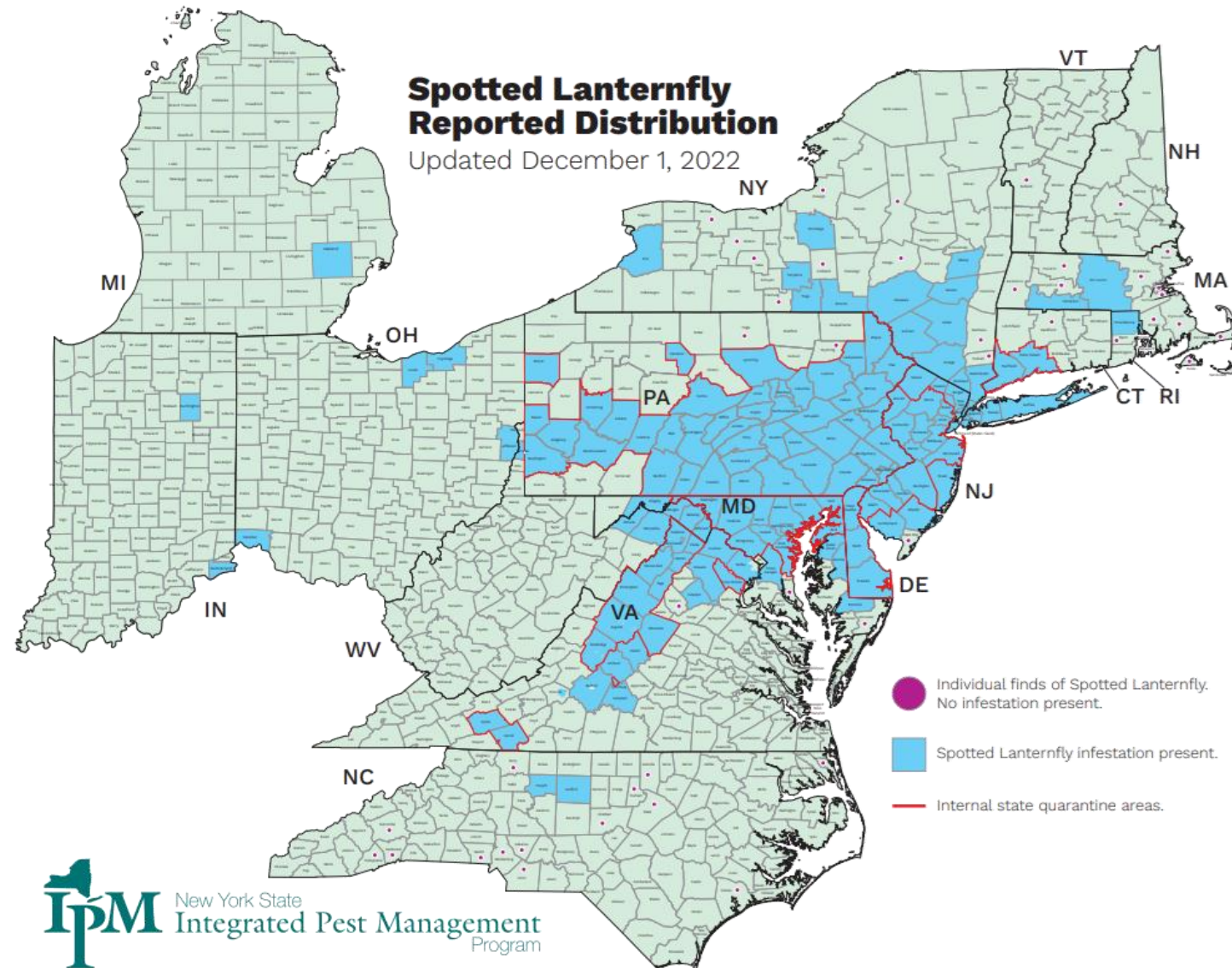
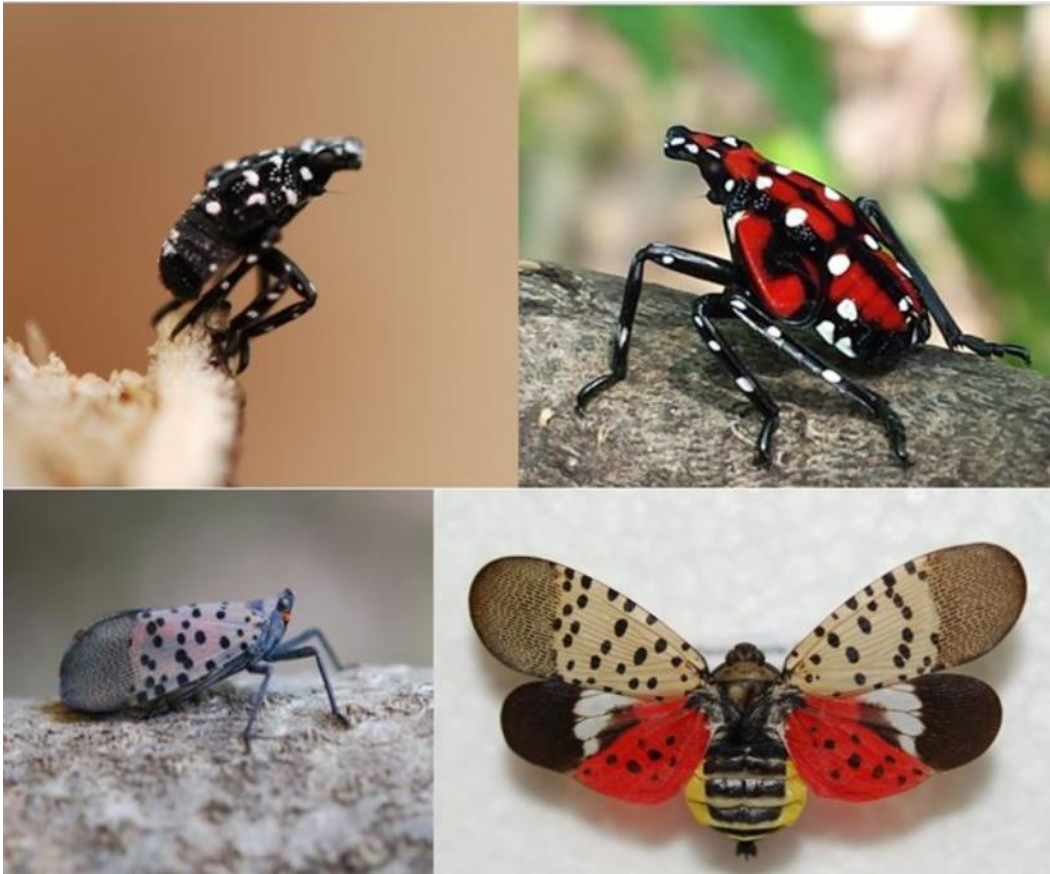
sbalog@caseytrees.org



Urban Forestry Division: 2023 Forest Health Update

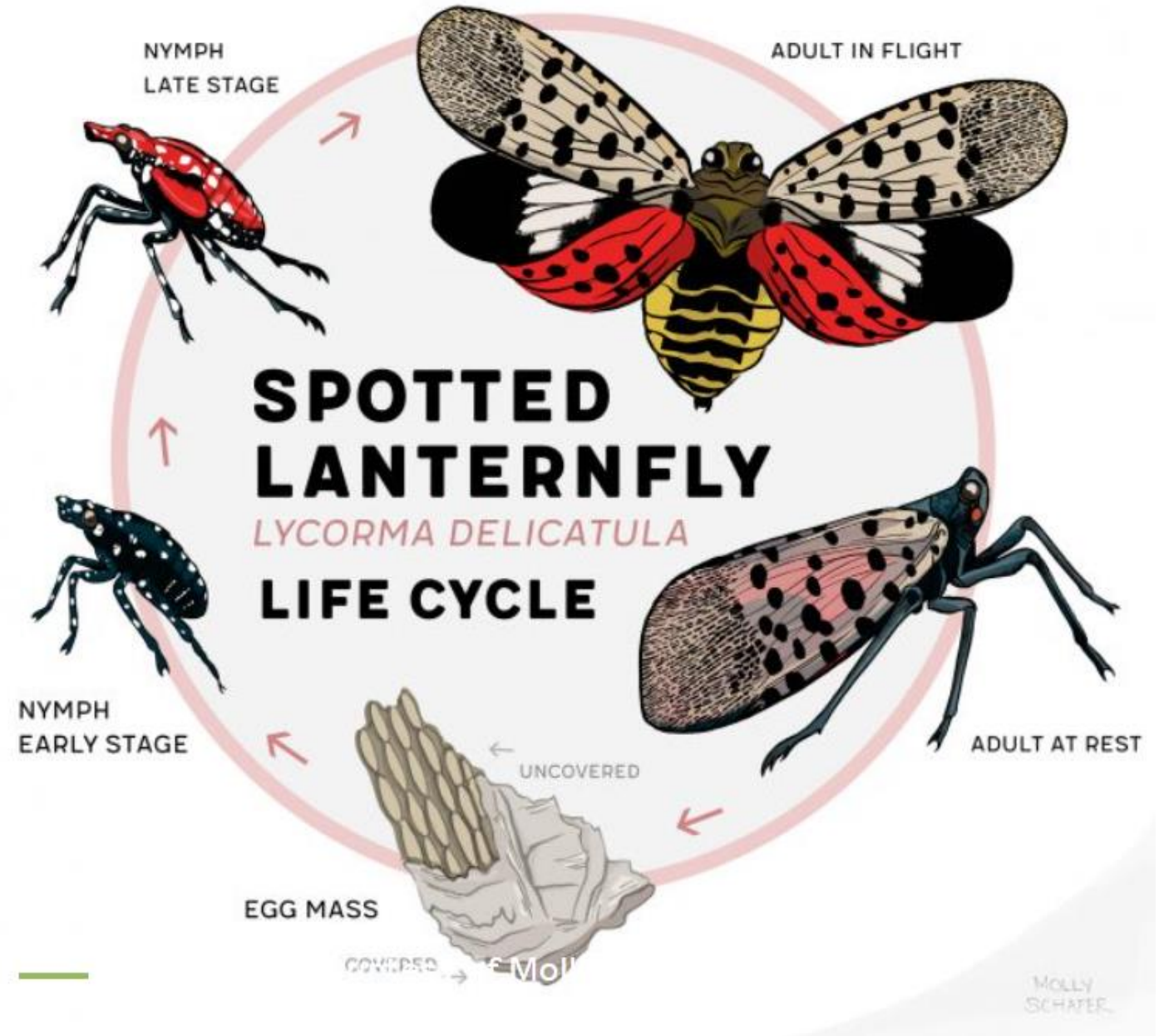


Spotted lanternfly, *Lycorma delicatula*

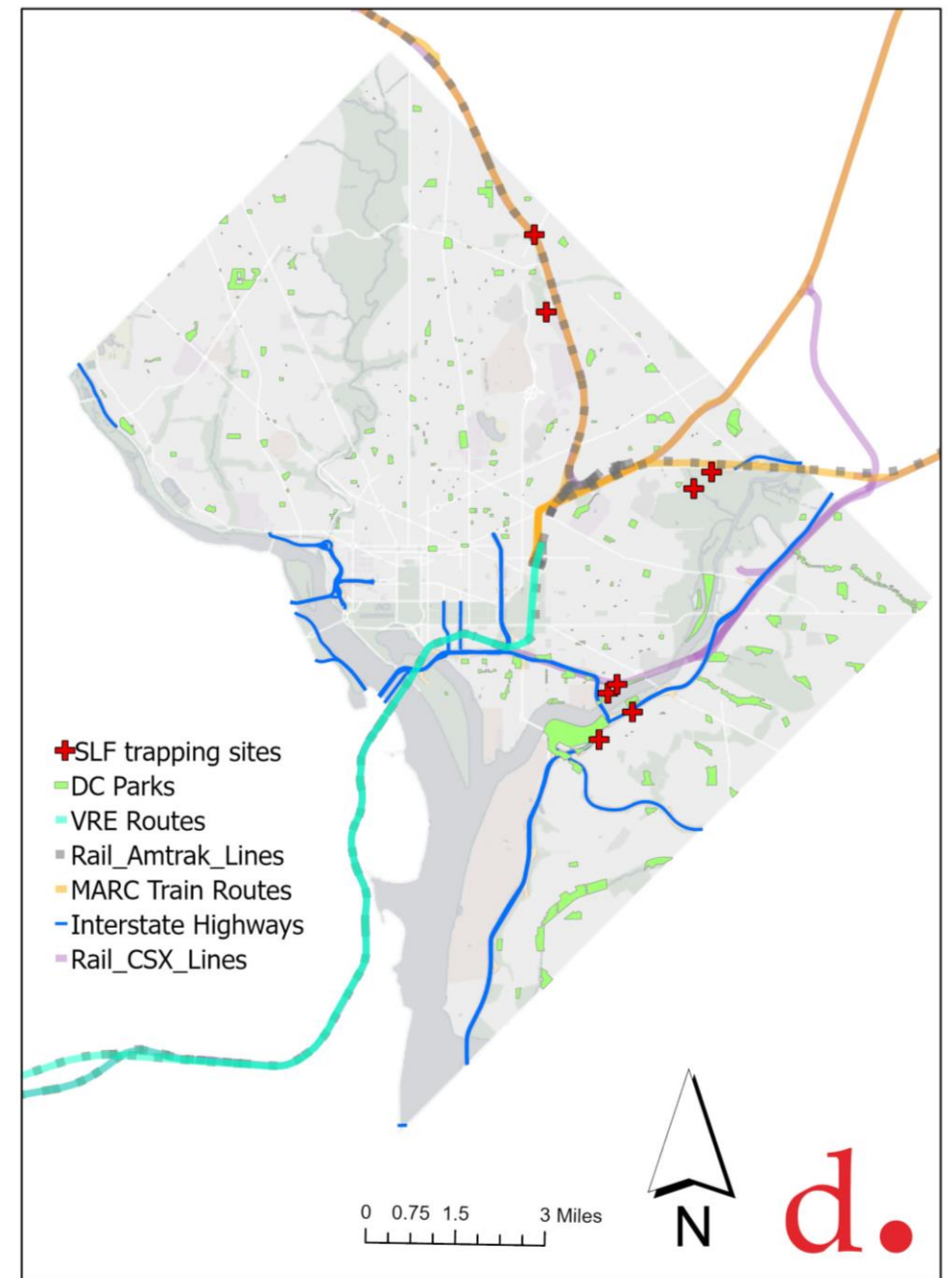


Spotted lanternfly

- Outreach
- Reporting website
- Trapping
- Management



Spotted lanternfly trapping



Spotted lanternfly reporting, 2022

Help Us Spot Invasive Species

How would you like to help keep our urban canopy safe from damaging invasive species? Please use the links below to find out more information and to open up a community reporter survey page based on the invasive species you found.

Spotted Lanternfly

The spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*) is native to parts of China, India, and Vietnam. It was first discovered in the Mid-Atlantic (Pennsylvania) in 2014. To date it has been detected in **Pennsylvania**, New York, New Jersey, Virginia, Delaware, and Maryland. It feeds by piercing the tissue of trunks, branches, and small stems and sucking the sap from the host plant or tree. This feeding sometimes leads to weeping wounds, which attracts insects such as ants, bees, hornets, and wasps to feed on it.

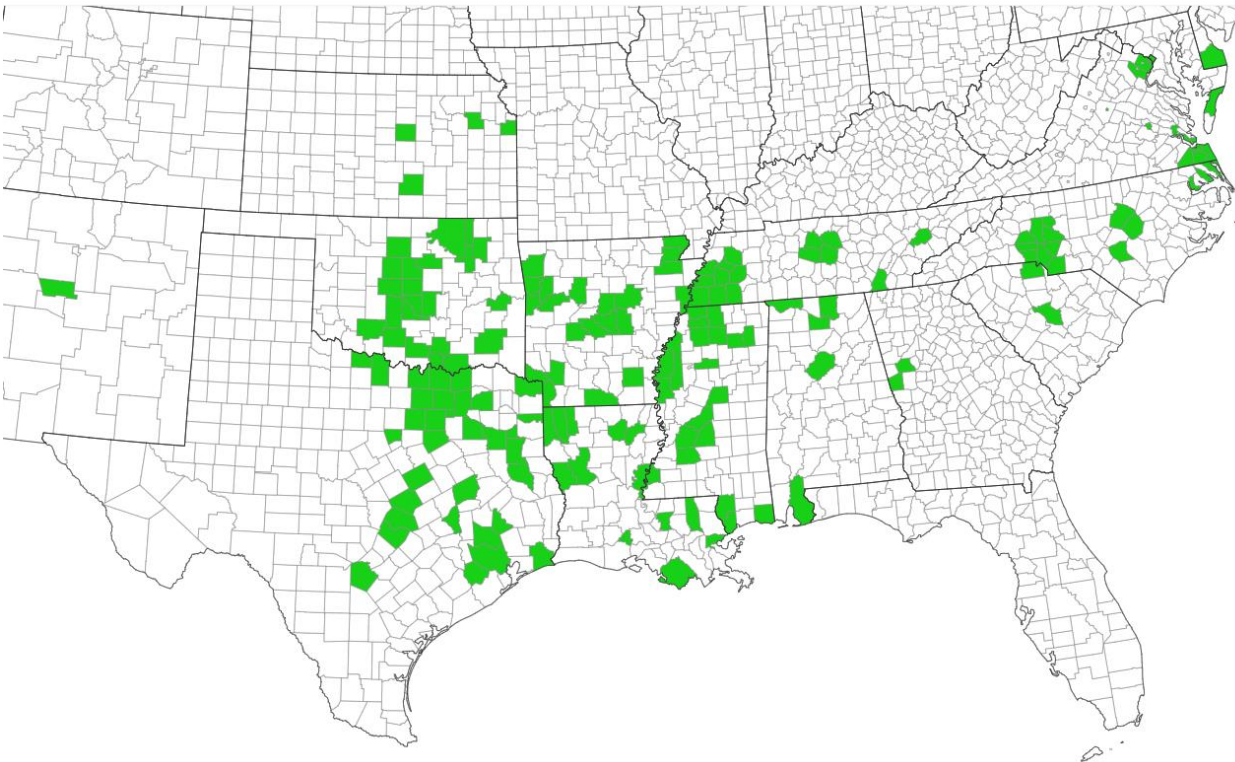
I may have seen this



<https://trees.dc.gov/pages/invasive-species-spotted-lantern-fly>

Crape myrtle bark scale, *Acanthococcus lagerstroemiae*

- Introduced to Texas in 2004
- Spreading to southern states



Crape myrtle bark scale

- What is at risk?
- What can be done?
- What are we doing?



Bark and ambrosia beetle trapping



Jumping oak galls

