



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine

Learn what this new quarantine means for residents, businesses, municipalities, and government agencies.

Quick Take

What:

The spotted lanternfly, *Lycorma delicatula*, (SLF) is a destructive, invasive plant hopper that attacks many hosts including forests, ornamental trees, orchards, and grapes—has been confirmed in northern New Castle County.

Significance:

The spotted lanternfly is a threat to Delaware and the United States. The insect is detrimental to Delaware's agricultural industries, the environment, and residential areas.

Agriculture is Delaware's #1 industry, providing more than 20,000 jobs and \$8 billion of economic activity, including \$1.2 billion in direct sales from our 2,300 family farms.

This insect is a threat to several important commercial crops including grapes, peaches, apples, hops, and timber. Early detection is vital for the protection of Delaware businesses and agriculture.

Areas Impacted:

The following Delaware zipcodes are quarantined in their entirety as of September 18, 2019:

New Castle County above the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal

Spotted lanternfly (SLF), *Lycorma delicatula*, is a threat to Delaware and the United States. It lays egg masses of 30-50 eggs wherever it chooses, especially on flat surfaces. All other life stages of this insect, from nymphs to adults can fly, hop, or drop into a vehicle – meaning that this pest can easily be transported to new areas where it can develop an infestation. Therefore, a quarantine over an area found to have spotted lanternfly means that any material or object that could harbor the pest cannot be moved without taking precautions to prevent that spread.

Current Quarantine Area

The goal of the quarantine is to eradicate, control, and prevent the spread of spotted lanternfly in Delaware and to surrounding states. The following area in New Castle County has been quarantined in its entirety:

All areas of New Castle County that are above the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal

The quarantine can expand if there is reason to believe that the pest has moved into a non-quarantined area.

Examples of Regulated Articles

- Any living life stage of the spotted lanternfly
- Landscaping, remodeling or construction materials
- Firewood of any species
- Packing materials (e.g., wood crates, boxes)
- All plants and plant parts including all live and dead trees, perennial and annual plants, and mulch
- Outdoor household articles like RVs, lawnmowers, chairs, grills, tarps, tile, stone, deckboards, and other vehicles not stored indoors

How Can Regulated Items Be Moved?

General Public

Complete a residential compliance checklist indicating that you inspected and know that no living life stage of spotted lanternfly is present on the articles. The checklist is available online at <https://de.gov/hitchhikerbug>.

Business, Municipalities, Government Agencies

Any person conducting business requiring the movement of any regulated item within or from the quarantine area must have a permit.

Permits for Business, Municipalities, Government Agencies

To obtain a permit, a designated individual from an organization must receive training and pass an online test to demonstrate a working knowledge and understanding of the pest and quarantine requirements. Training of other employees, inspection of vehicles and products, and removal of living stages of spotted lanternfly must be completed. The permit demonstrates that you have the understanding to identify the pest and can ensure the items you transport are not carrying the insect.

- Managers, supervisors, or persons with authority for your business work group must receive approved training. Training is available online through the Delaware Department of Agriculture at: <https://de.gov/hitchhikerbug>
- A designated manager or supervisor taking the multiple choice exam must receive a passing grade of at least 70 percent. The business name, number of vehicles and/or conveyances, address, and contact information is required to register for the exam.
- The manager or supervisor taking the exam agrees to train all employees in the work group to identify the pest and prevent it from movement on products, vehicles and other methods of conveyance..
- The permit will be issued by the Delaware Department of Agriculture upon successful completion of the training and exam. The permit will be valid for a period of one year.
- Contractors and subcontractors must possess their own permit indicating they have completed training if they are working within or outside of a quarantine zone.
- The permit must be kept inside the business vehicle when working within or outside of the quarantine zone.
- Recordkeeping of training, inspection of vehicles, incoming and outgoing shipments of regulated articles, and control measures taken (such as vehicle washes, destruction of living life stages of spotted lanternfly, etc.) must be maintained for a minimum of two years and may be requested from the Department.

Movement of Regulated Articles

All regulated articles, including vehicles and conveyances, shall be inspected and all life stages of the spotted lanternfly shall be removed and destroyed prior to movement within or out of the quarantine area. Regulated articles, other than vehicles and conveyances, must be packaged and safeguarded prior to shipping, such as within a closed container, shrink wrapped, tight tarp or similar covering, to maintain isolation from the environment during storage or transportation.

If any living life stage of the spotted lanternfly is found during an inspection, those items will remain within the quarantine area, be placed in a separate area away from other regulated articles and will be processed, treated, burned, or buried, in accordance with all federal, state, or local laws.

A regulated article, including vehicles and conveyances, may be shipped through the quarantine area if it originates outside of the quarantine area and the destination is outside of a quarantine area, including the quarantine areas of other states. This must be designated on the waybill accompanying the regulated items. As long as the item has been stored, packed, or handled only at locations outside the quarantine area, the item including the vehicle and conveyance, may move through the quarantine zone without stopping (except for refueling, traffic control devices, or emergency conditions).

If any other area, inside or outside of Delaware, is determined to have spotted lanternfly present, movement from that area into the State will require a permit issued either under Delaware's regulations, a Department approved permitting process, or other program carried out by the state of origin.

Additional Information

- For more information, visit: <https://de.gov/hitchhikerbug>
- For questions related to the quarantine, permitting, treatment, or to report a sighting of spotted lanternfly, especially outside of the quarantine zone, call (302) 698-4632 or email: HitchHikerBug@delaware.gov. In your message, provide the location of the sighting and your contact information.