

BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS, N. J.

INCORPORATED 1900

42 SHORE DRIVE
HIGHLANDS, NJ 07732
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

732-872-1224 PH
732-872-0670 FX

WWW.HIGHLANDBOROUGH.ORG



CAROLYN BROULLON
MAYOR

MICHAEL MUSCILLO
ADMINISTRATOR

NANCY TRAN
BOROUGH CLERK

Borough of Highlands Spotted Lanternfly Plan

Spotted lanternfly (SLF) is an invasive pest from Asia that primarily feeds on tree of heaven/Chinese sumac (*Ailanthus altissima*) but can also feed on a wide variety of plants such as grapevine, hops, maple, walnut, fruit trees and others.

The Borough continues to work closely with State and County officials to respond to the infestation and we need your assistance in order to get this situation under control.

One of the greatest impacts we can do right now is to remove as many trees of heaven/Chinese sumac as possible. The Borough will waive the fee for the Tree Removal permit, BUT you still need to file the permit at the office at 42 Shore Drive. The permit can be found here:

<https://highlandsborough.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Tree-Permit-Application-20201104.pdf>

The two most important things to do after the removal of *the* *Ailanthus altissima* trees is to seek out and destroy as many of the larvae as possible before they can hatch next spring as well as remove all groups of weeds from your property. Weeds on your property are one of your worst enemies for a SLF infestation even if you do not have an *Ailanthus altissima* tree.

There is so much information out there, it is usually best to stick to ones approved by the Federal, State, County governments as well as accredited universities. Some helpful links to learn more about how to protect your property from this invasive species can be found here:

- NJ State website <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/pests-diseases/spotted-lanternfly/>
- Penn State University <https://extension.psu.edu/how-to-remove-spotted-lanternfly-eggs>
- St. Lawrence Lake Ontario <https://www.sleloinvasives.org/invasives/tiered-species-list/tree-of-heaven/>
- The Nature Conservancy <https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/indiana/stories-in-indiana/journey-with-nature--tree-of-heaven/>