

Kentucky Woodland

Kentucky Forest Leadership Program for High School Students

If you know high school students entering their junior or senior year, consider encouraging them to be a part of the Kentucky Forest Leadership Program. For more than 50 years, high school students interested in learning about forestry and natural resource management while developing leadership skills have attended this event. It will be the one week of their summer break they won't forget.

This program's hands-on approach to learning is sure to get anyone excited about forestry. Truly "getting your hands dirty" provides the opportunity to know the depths, surprises, and excitement of one of Kentucky's most plentiful natural resources—forests. While the week-long experience concentrates on forest management, the students will also explore a variety of related fields such as civil engineering, soil science, wildlife habitat assessment, entomology, water quality, and wood products.



Photos courtesy: Doug McLaren

The Kentucky Forest Leadership Program gives the student a chance to learn how to think, not what to think. The program will develop leadership skills by letting students work cooperatively to resolve an environmental issue. The

major project for the week is a group presentation of an environmental management plan for a designated forested area using the skills learned during the course.

Training and facilitating will be done by professional forestry and natural resource managers from the University of Kentucky's Department of Forestry, Kentucky Division of Conservation, Kentucky Division of Forestry, and private natural resource leaders.

The leadership program takes place in a forest setting at the University of Kentucky's Leadership Center located on Lake Cumberland in Jabez, approximately 20 miles west of Somerset.

For more information concerning the Kentucky Forest Leadership Program and how you can assist a high school student to register, contact Doug McLaren, Department of Forestry, University of Kentucky, 859.257.2703, or visit the web site at <http://www.uky.edu/Ag/Forestry/kflp/kflp.htm> for an online brochure. Deadline for registration is May 18, 2007. The total fee for the Kentucky Forest Leadership Program is \$225 (including the \$50 nonrefundable application fee). Enrollment is limited to 25 students. Up to two applications per county will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Firewood Policy for Campgrounds



The Kentucky Forest Health Task Force has recommended the complete cessation of the movement of out-of-state firewood into Kentucky. There are a number of insects including the Emerald Ash Borer that can hitchhike into Kentucky on firewood. Kentucky State Parks have put into place a policy of not allowing firewood to be transported and used in their campgrounds.

In March, the Kentucky Forest Health Task Force sent a letter to all 215 private campgrounds in Kentucky asking them to voluntarily establish a policy of restricting the movement of firewood by campers into their facilities. Posters indicating the dangers of out-of-state firewood were also sent with the letter.

News To Use

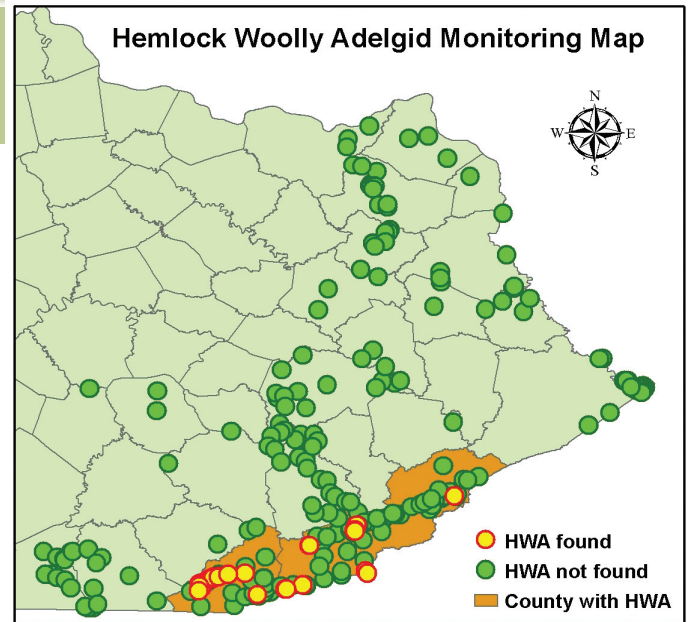
Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) Update

There are presently three counties with HWA infestations in Kentucky: Bell, Harlan and Letcher.

Letcher County was added to the list due to an infestation recently found in Bad Branch Nature Preserve. To date, there are 18 infestations in these three counties. It is assumed that there are more infestations, but they haven't been detected yet. Predator beetles will be released in late March at Cumberland Gap National Park in Bell and Harlan counties to attempt to control the infestation without chemical usage.

On state-owned property, the treatment options available for this spring will be either by systemic chemical or bio-control (predator beetles). The choice of which to use will be up to the respective land-owning agencies.

For more information, contact Tim McClure, Kentucky Division of Forestry, at E-mail: thomas.mcclure@ky.gov or phone: 502.564.4496.



by Songlin Fei, Ph.D., UK Forestry, 3/2007

Emerald Ash Borer Update

by Janet Lensing

As of February 2007, the emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire, has not been found in Kentucky; however, in addition to the initial infestation in Michigan, this beetle has spread into Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, all of which border Kentucky. The beetle has also been collected in Maryland and in Ontario, Canada. In the fall of 2006, EAB was discovered in Warren County, Ohio, about 30 miles north of Cincinnati. Currently the entire states of Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio are under federal quarantines that restrict the movement of ash trees, branches, logs, and firewood out of those states. Kentucky is cooperating with United States Department of Agriculture Plant Protection and Quarantine (USDA-PPQ) personnel to enforce this federal quarantine. The lumber industry in Kentucky has been very supportive of the measures designed to restrict the accidental movement of EAB into the state. Firewood movement has been a major factor in the spread of EAB; thus, the Kentucky state parks have banned firewood from quarantined areas.

Currently, the only available technique for early detection of EAB is the use of trap trees. (See photo at right.) Trap trees are ash trees that are intentionally wounded by girdling and then removing a 4- to 8-inch band of bark and phloem around the trunk of the tree. These stressed trees release volatiles, thus making them attractive to EAB. Sticky bands of plastic are placed on either side of the girdled section to capture the beetles. After a year, the tree is cut down and dissected to determine if larval galleries are present. The Office of the State Entomologist at the University of Kentucky (UK) and the Kentucky Division of Forestry (KDF) girdled ash trees at selected locations in the state in 2006. KDF concentrated on areas along the northern border of Kentucky and six sites across Kentucky at or near campgrounds. UK girdled trees in seven state parks located in the northern, central, and southern areas of Kentucky. It is hoped that the federal quarantines along with the firewood ban imposed by the Kentucky state parks will slow the spread of EAB into Kentucky. The most recent and reliable information about EAB can be found at www.emeraldashborer.info



Photo courtesy: Left - Emerald Ash Borer adult on leaf: by David Cappaert Above: Girdling a tree: by Janet Lensing