



Egg Mass Alert

Now that winter has set in, Pennsylvanians no longer need to be watching for adult lanternflies sneaking aboard their vehicles. But when a beautiful day comes along and you are looking for something to do outside, take the opportunity now and across the winter to check for spotted lanternfly egg masses on vehicles, equipment, or materials stored outdoors. Scraping them now means you won't move them to new places, and you won't have to deal with the hatchlings on your property next spring.

For the uninitiated, finding spotted lanternfly egg masses can seem like an impossible task. But once you learn how to spot them, it becomes easier and easier. Use your favorite method to destroy the eggs within the mass. SLF eggs can be destroyed by scraping them into an alcohol solution (e.g., rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer) and putting the bag in the trash. Eggs can also be destroyed by thoroughly smashing them, either by rolling over them with a stick or smashing them with a hard flat object such as a spatula or a credit card. Just take the time to make sure all eggs within the mass have popped or been destroyed.

All the blue-green or white smudges are NOT egg masses. They are lichens.



Several grey spotted lanternfly egg masses.

One freshly laid white egg mass.



A grey spotted lanternfly mass.

A spongy moth (Lymantria) egg mass.

For Permit Holders: Winter Suspension of Inspection Requirements

Spotted lanternfly inspections may be suspended from **December 1st through March 31st**. Before suspending inspections, remove and destroy any egg masses and adults. Document this inspection and any actions taken.

It is still important to be vigilant for egg masses during the winter season. While inspections are not required during this time, we recommend examining any equipment or items that have not been moved or inspected since the spotted lanternfly egg laying season (September – November). Egg masses are often well camouflaged and can easily be overlooked. Being proactive will reduce the amount of egg masses that may be missed and able to hatch in the spring. Staying alert and taking preventive action will help to slow the spread of spotted lanternfly.

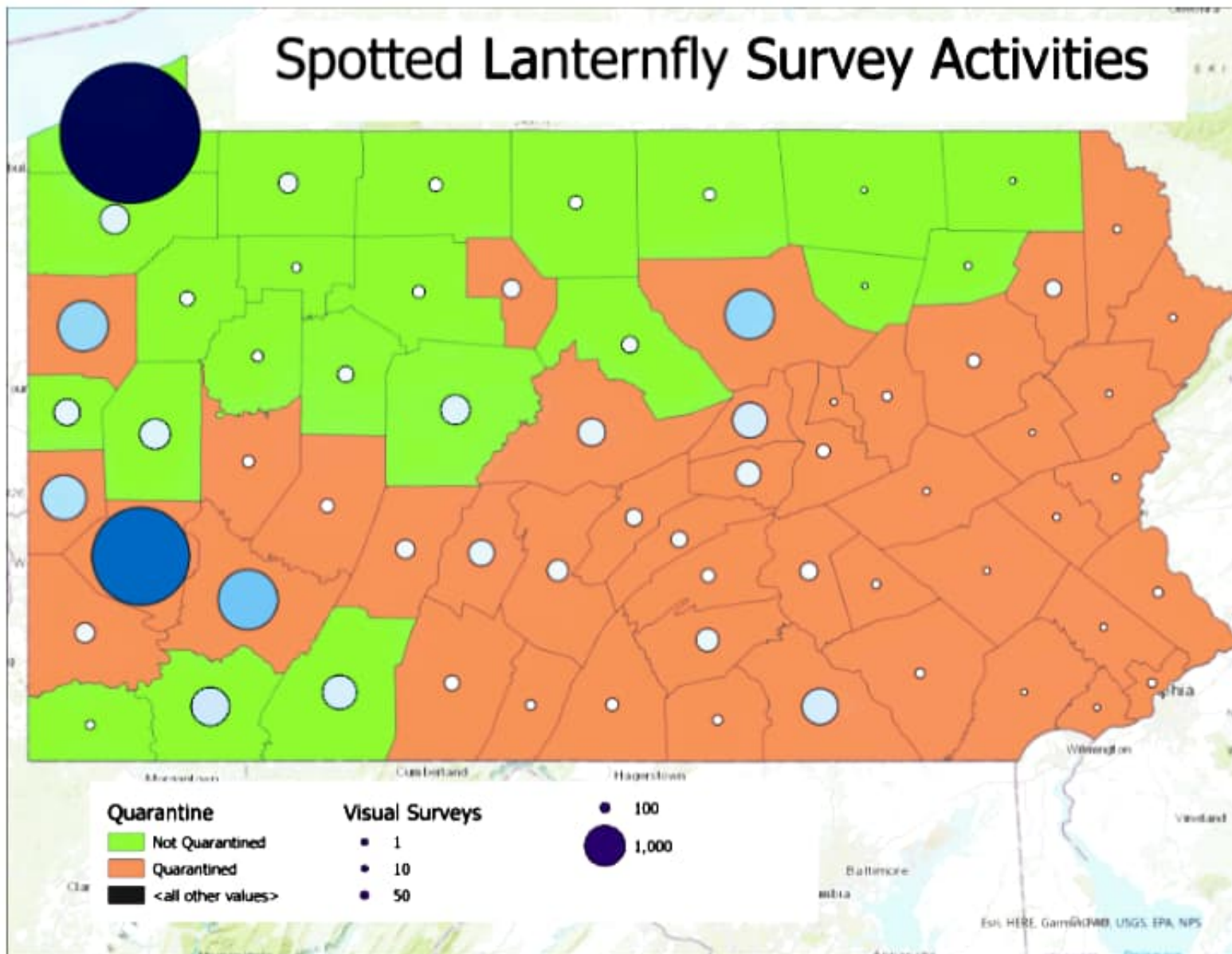
The Departments of Agriculture at Work in 2022

The Pennsylvania and U.S. Departments of Agriculture have had teams working all through 2022 to slow the spread of spotted lanternfly. To do this, they have had two very specific operational tasks:

The first operational task is **SURVEY**:

You can't stop spotted lanternfly from moving if you don't know where it is in the first place! Both visual and trapping surveys have been conducted in 2022. While some survey has been done in each of the 67 Pennsylvania counties, the most intense survey is in areas on the leading edge of the infestation, or in areas where spotted lanternfly has not yet been found. The county receiving the most attention this year was Erie County. There were no spotted lanternflies found there, but survey is needed to find it early if it does move in, to protect the grape industry we know would be hurt badly by lanternfly.

Spotted Lanternfly Survey Activities



The larger and darker the circle, the more spotted lanternfly survey was conducted in that county by department of agriculture staff.

The second task for the operations crew is **TREATMENT:**

Insecticide treatments have taken place in all 45 counties currently under the spotted lanternfly quarantine. These treatments are directed to sites where there is great risk of insect movement but low risk of environment harm, such as highly disturbed areas near truck distribution centers, rail yards, airports, or maritime ports. In 2022, 25,000 acres were treated.



A USDA team does a spotted lanternfly treatment at the Pittsburgh International Airport.

Keep the spotted lanternfly news coming - Sign up with Penn State Extension!

This newsletter, The Spotted Lanternflyer, is being discontinued. That is not because we have run out of information to share, but because there is another great source for spotted lanternfly information available to you. You don't have to miss out on any of the latest information on the spotted lanternfly: sign up to receive the e-newsletter offered by Penn State Extension.

The "Spotted Lanternfly Newsletter" is distributed monthly from April through October, and features content developed by Penn State Extension educators and College of Agricultural Sciences researchers. Readers receive the latest information on research and extension activities related to the spotted lanternfly, how to manage it on farms, home landscapes and other properties, how to comply with quarantine regulations, what is being done to stop this pest, and more. Information is delivered through articles, how-to videos, photos, webinars and fact sheets. To sign up, [click here](#).

Thank you for following spotted lanternfly news through the Spotted Lanternflyer. We appreciate all you do to keep up to date on Spotted Lanternfly information and activities.

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