

## **MSU Eyes on the Forest: Sentinel Tree Project**

The Michigan Sentinel Tree Project is one way we can be pro-active in addressing potential new threats to Michigan's trees and forests.

Through the use of volunteers who "adopt" trees to monitor, it will increase the probability of early detection of new invasive pests that appear in Michigan. Would you be willing to volunteer to identify, monitor and report on the condition of a Sentinel Tree?

Maples, hemlocks and walnuts are our highest priority for Sentinel Trees due to the threat of Asian Longhorned Beetle; Hemlock Woolly Adelgid and Thousand cankers disease of walnut.

However, other native tree species, in rural or urban areas, can also be enrolled in the Michigan Sentinel Tree Project.



### **Volunteers are needed**

to select and periodically examine a tree to watch for signs or symptoms of exotic invasive pests that pose a threat to Michigan's forests and urban trees. This network will be connected with the Michigan Invasive Species Information Network (MISIN).

## **Developing a Volunteer Network**

We hope to develop an extensive network of sentinel trees across Michigan. If you (and your friends!) would like to be part of this important early detection system – please let us know! We really need more Sentinel Tree Volunteers to “round out” our network across Michigan and become our “eyes on the forest”.



We expect Sentinel Trees will need to be monitored 2-3 times a year for a period of 3-5 years, and hopefully longer. The more extensive the network and the longer trees are monitored, the greater the value of the data. Changes in the condition of a tree are often important clues about insect or pathogen pests.

As pictured below, three high priority invasive forest pests have been targeted, including:

- Hemlock woolly adelgid,
- Thousand cankers disease of walnut
- Asian longhorned beetle



Asian longhorned beetle  
(MDNR photo)

***This project is funded through the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program.***

We are looking for people who are interested in serving as a Michigan Sentinel Tree volunteer. Please send the names of any interested volunteers to

**Russ Kidd**

Outreach Coordinator

[kidd@msu.edu](mailto:kidd@msu.edu)

or

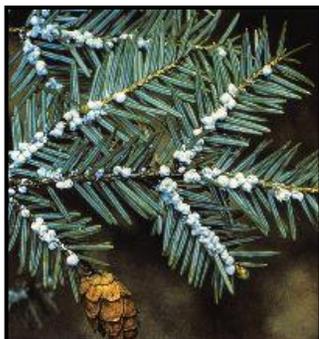
**Dr. Deb McCullough**

Professor, MSU Departments of Entomology and Forestry

[mccullo6@msu.edu](mailto:mccullo6@msu.edu)

Thank you for your help and interest in the Michigan Eyes on Forest Project!

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Hemlock woolly adelgid  
(USFS Photo)

These pests could have a severe impact if they become permanently established and spread across Michigan.



**Thousand Cankers Disease**  
(Ted Tisserat, Colorado State University photo)

# Michigan Sentinel Trees

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