

# WARMINSTER HEIGHTS HOME OWNERSHIP ASSOCIATION, INC.



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## SPOTTED LANTERNFLY – TREATMENT – NEXT WEEK

During the week of August 3<sup>rd</sup> (most likely on AUGUST 4<sup>th</sup>), Tuesday, Moyer Commercial Turf & Tree Care, will be out treating the entire community to help rid Warminster Heights of this destructive pest, the Spotted Lanternfly. This treatment reduces the population of lanternfly nymphs and adults.

As everyone has seen, this year we are being inundated with these invasive and destructive insects. They are more than just a nuisance, and are destroying a major asset of Warminster Heights: its trees. As we do with other invasive and destructive insects, we professionally treat to mitigate and limit their destructiveness. We treat, now, to limit destruction and cost of repairs, later. Tree destruction, in general, leads to dead limbs which are more susceptible to weather which could lead to a dangerous situation with damage to homes and potential personal injury.

Spotted Lanternflies are also toxic and dangerous to animals, if ingested.

The insect is toxic if consumed (so keep your pets away from it!) and has no natural predators here in the USA, making it extremely difficult to control.

Egg masses can be left on nearly any surface, including logs, outdoor camping and recreational equipment, and cars or trailers that are then transported to other areas and states, which is one way that the pest has spread to other areas.

You may also see an increase in wasps, bees, ants, and hornets that are attracted to the weeping wounds left by the Spotted Lanternfly.

And if you see one nearby, it is recommended that you step on it, squash it, or otherwise get rid of it. Do whatever you can to kill the spotted lanternfly - without any natural predators in the USA, it is up to us to do whatever is necessary to control the threat posed by this invasive insect.

To prevent nymphs from climbing tree trunks, you can place a sticky band around the trunk to trap them as they climb. You can buy bands specifically for this purpose or wrap your trees with duct tape (sticky side out). Bands should be in place in early spring to catch newly emerging nymphs – it is not effective against flying adults.

You may also call the Pennsylvania Spotted Lanternfly hotline at **1-888-4BADFLY**.