

News Release
7-21-14

WVDA HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID PROGRAM EXPANDING

Commissioner of Agriculture Walt Helmick has announced that the West Virginia Department of Agriculture's Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) Program has expanded to include all counties currently infested with HWA.

"Additional counties were found to be infested this year so our Plant Industries Division Staff expanded our HWA program so landowners in those counties would be allowed to participate" said Commissioner Helmick.

The hemlock woolly adelgid, *Adelges tsugae*, is a non-native invasive pest that is quickly decimating hemlocks (*Tsuga canadensis* and *T. caroliniana*) in the eastern United States" said Quentin "Butch" Sayers, Assistant Director of PID with WVDA. "Without long-term control of HWA, eastern and Carolina hemlock will be significantly reduced, if not eliminated, throughout its natural range." "HWA causes damage to hemlocks by depleting the hemlock's starch reserves, which in turn reduces the trees' ability to grow and produce new shoots" said Sayers. "All ages and size classes of hemlock are susceptible to HWA infestations."

WVDA is now accepting applications from landowners who wish to sign up and participate in the WVDA HWA Program to help protect their hemlock trees. Landowners who want to participate in the HWA Cooperative Program must complete an application and submit it with a \$100 deposit that will be applied to your treatment costs. The application can be received by calling the WVDA Charleston Office at (304) 558-2212 or downloading at: http://www.wvagriculture.org/images/Plant_Industries/About_Us.html.

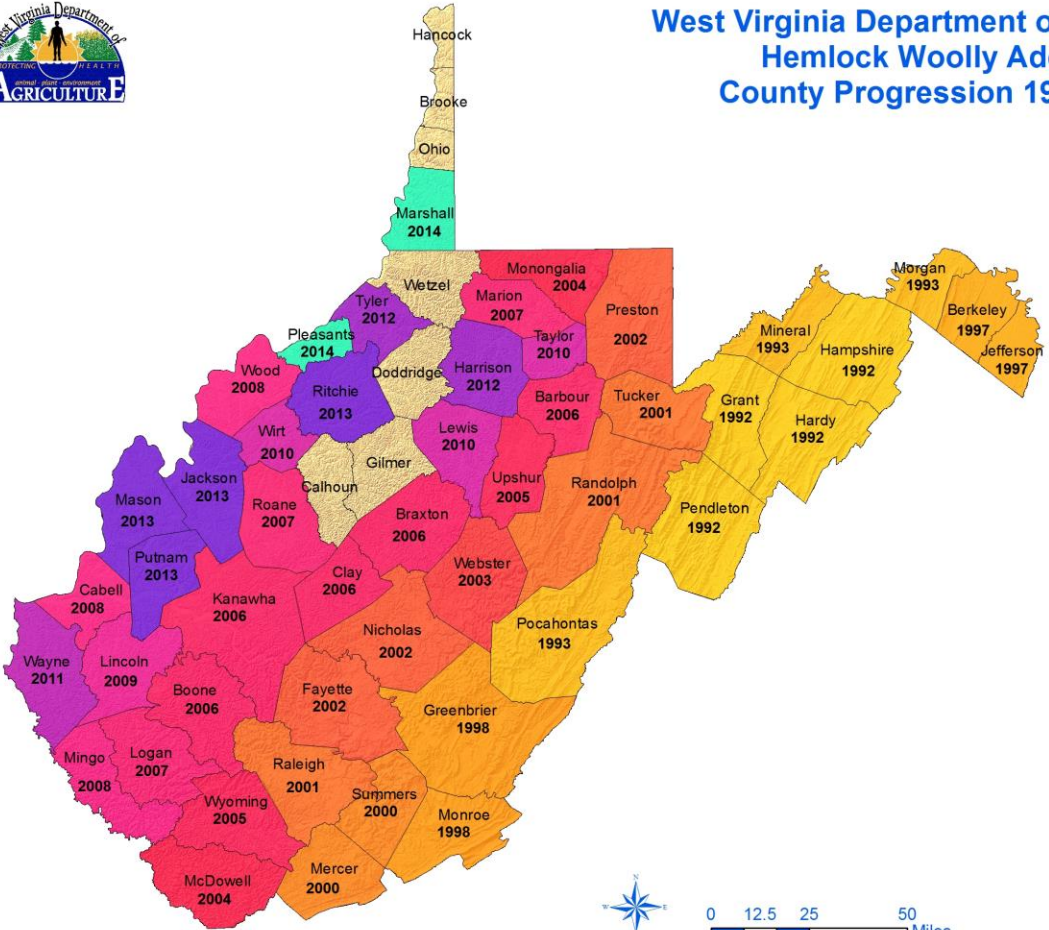
Landowners must apply for the program by September 30th, 2014, provide WVDA with a map of their property, and allow WVDA to evaluate their site to ensure it meets the project qualifications:

- Only private lands within the project area are eligible.
- More than 50 percent canopy cover of hemlocks.
- A woodlot with a minimum of five acres. Adjacent and otherwise eligible landowners may cooperate to meet the minimum acreage requirement.
- Landowners with less than five acres may qualify if the proposed treatment area is adjacent to land being managed for HWA.
- Trees must have more than 50 percent foliage.
- Trees may not have been treated within the last four years.
- Treatment must not pose a safety risk to WVDA field personnel.
- Pesticides used in treatments must be purchased directly by WVDA.

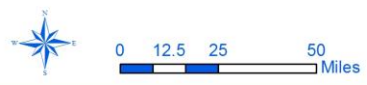
Treatments usually protect trees four-to-five years. Cost share monies are available, however landowners accepted for the program must pay for a portion of the treatments. Applying for the program does not obligate landowners to participate – they may back out if they feel their portion of the costs is too high.



West Virginia Department of Agriculture Hemlock Woolly Adelgid County Progression 1992-2014



- HWA Infested Counties
Quarantine Year
- 1992
 - 1993
 - 1997
 - 1998
 - 2000
 - 2001
 - 2002
 - 2003
 - 2004
 - 2005
 - 2006
 - 2007
 - 2008
 - 2009
 - 2010
 - 2011
 - 2012
 - 2013
 - 2014



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