

Hemlock and HWA Hunters

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) Survey Protocol

Survey Protocol for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid:

- Look at multiple branches/twigs on all sides of a hemlock tree
- Look for hemlocks in poor health: with weakened or declining crown; defoliation; pale, greyish foliage, lack of new buds
- Look on ground for infested hemlock branches that have fallen from the canopy

HWA Identification: November—April

- HWA actively growing and developing
- White, waxy wool masses on hemlock twigs at base of needles on new growth
- Best seen looking at underside of twig



HWA Identification: May—October

- HWA in period of dormancy called aestivation
- Black nymphs surrounded by white halo of wool
- Easiest to see using magnification (hand lens or magnifying glass)



Other Clues of Potential HWA Infestation (These do not guarantee an infestation is present, further surveying needed)



Weakened tree crown, loss of needles in canopy; absence of new green shoots in June



Pale, greyish cast to foliage, easily spotted when boating/from a distance



Woodpecker damage from infestation of hemlock borer (native pest)



Elongate Hemlock Scale infestation (INVASIVE-REPORT IF SEEN)

Reporting Protocol: Use one of the following methods to report a known HWA infestation

Use NYiMapInvasives mobile app:

- Download NYiMapInvasives app on your smartphone (App Store or Google Play); create username/password online at www.nyimainvasives.org
- Report **HWA** (for infestation presence) or **X-HWA** (for infestation absence)
- Visit www.nyimainvasives.org for training dates and resources
- Data uploaded into statewide invasive species map

Call DEC's Forest Pest Information Line:

(1-866-640-0652)

Email location details/photo/GPS coordinates to NYS Hemlock Initiative:

nyhemlockinitiative@cornell.edu

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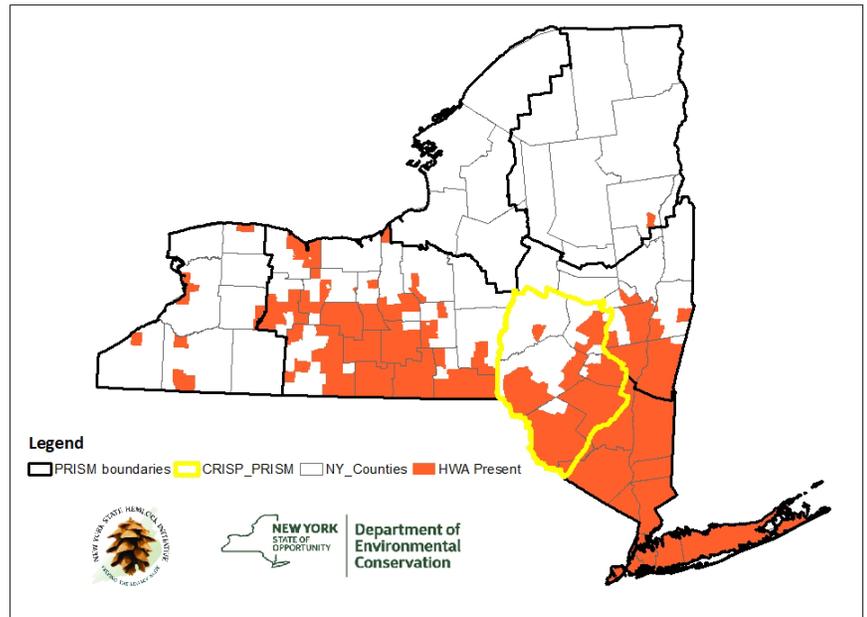
HWA Survey Protocol: Catskills Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP)

PRISM stands for **Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management**. New York has eight PRISM regions, each made up of conservation organizations concerned with invasive species detection and management at the local, regional, and state level. Additionally, each PRISM has specific goals regarding hemlock conservation and HWA management in its region.

CRISP PRISM HWA Outlook:

The Catskills are home to large numbers of New York's hemlocks and HWA has been active in the area for over a decade. The Catskills infestation started in the southeast and has been moving roughly northwest from there.

The southern part of the region is starting to experience the death of infested hemlocks, while there are infested and non-infested areas of healthy hemlocks in the northwestern Catskills. **CRISP is currently focused on reporting and management.** Assessing tree health in the Catskills will become increasingly important, since data from these assessments will enable the NYS Hemlock Initiative to plan biocontrol releases in the region.



Get Involved:

- **Survey for HWA** and, if found, use one of the above methods to **report your finding**.
- **Monitor your property for HWA** if you have hemlock stands and consider treatment if HWA is found. Management information can be found on the NYSHI website (address below).
- **Consider getting involved with our hemlock hedge program.** If you have an infested hemlock hedge and are interested in hosting a colony of HWA predator insects, please let us know.
- **Become a NYSHI HWA Phenology volunteer** and track HWA's major life stages throughout the year.

Additionally, in this region:

- **Report any findings of pine bark adelgid (PBA)** in the area (characterized by white, woolly fluff similar to HWA wool on the trunk, branches, or twigs of white pine trees). Findings help us improve our biocontrol research program.

Resources for HWA Management in CRISP PRISM

CRISP PRISM website:
www.catskillinvasives.com

CRISP PRISM Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/catskillinvasives

New York State Hemlock Initiative website:
www.nyshemlockinitiative.info

NYS Hemlock Initiative Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/NYSHemlockInitiative

For questions about HWA management in your area, or for more information on getting involved with our Citizen Scientist volunteer programs please email us at nyshemlockinitiative@cornell.edu