



The New York State Hemlock Initiative's mission is to coordinate state-wide efforts of land owners, state and federal agencies, government officials, and concerned citizens to conserve New York State's hemlock trees, with our focus on the invasive forest pest the hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA).

[www.nyshemlockinitiative.info](http://www.nyshemlockinitiative.info)

Cornell  
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## Volunteer Opportunity: Hemlock and HWA Hunters

### Help us find hemlock trees:

**Eastern hemlock** (*Tsuga canadensis*) is an evergreen species found throughout New York. Hemlocks have short, flat needles with white stripes on the underside, reddish-grey, scaly, fissured bark, and can grow up to 100ft (30m) tall. It is common to find them in shady areas and along stream corridors. For us to adequately assess the threat of HWA, it is important for us to understand where New York's hemlock resources are. You can help us by reporting where you find dense stands of hemlocks, infested or not.



### Help us find hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA):

To understand the spread of HWA and know what areas may be at risk, we want to know where infestations are located. When you are out in the field, hiking, boating, or even just enjoying your own back yard, you can help us locate infestations. HWA is a small aphid-like insect that kills hemlock trees. It appears as small, white, cottony balls on the twigs of hemlocks, most apparent from late fall into early summer. In the summer, HWA looks like tiny black dots on twigs at the base of needles.



### Reporting Protocol: HWA and x-HWA

There are several ways that you can report hemlock and HWA findings:

**2. Use the iMapInvasives reporting app or website:**

Visit [nyimapinvasives.org](http://nyimapinvasives.org) and follow the instructions to create a username and password. Download the **iMapInvasives app** from the App Store, the Google Play store, or [nyimapinvasives.org/mobile](http://nyimapinvasives.org/mobile). You may use your iMapInvasives account on your smartphone or computer to **mark both HWA sightings (HWA) or hemlock trees with no infestation (x-HWA)**.

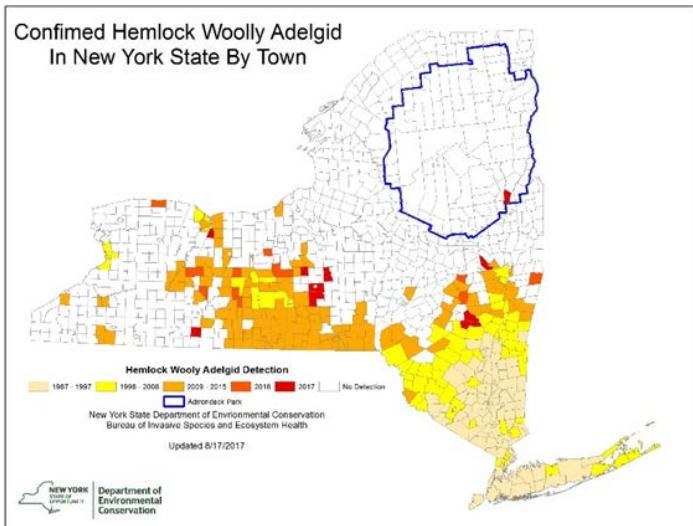
**3. Send us an email or letter with a photo of the infestation and GPS coordinates (if possible) or a detailed description of the location. Our email address is [nyshemlockinitiative@cornell.edu](mailto:nyshemlockinitiative@cornell.edu) and our mailing address is **NYS Hemlock Initiative, 111 Farnow Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca NY 14850**.**



**NOTE: Infested trees can also be seen by boat!** If you are out on your favorite lake or river, inspect hemlocks on the shore. Infested, dying trees will appear greyish from the shore instead of a healthy dark green. If you see this, investigate and report your findings to us!

## Where is HWA in New York?

The NY Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) reports on HWA findings throughout New York State. The current extent can be seen on the map to the right. The infestation in New York State began in the late 1980s in the Lower Hudson Valley and Long Island area. The infestation continued into the Catskills and Finger Lakes in the 1990s and 2000s. In the summer of 2017, HWA reached the Adirondacks. **We must remain vigilant to detect new infestations as they arise.** With your help, we can slow the spread of HWA and further understand how to conserve New York's hemlocks.



## Know Your PRISM: Long Island Invasive Species Management Area



**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.

HWA has been present on Long Island since the 1990's and many of the region's hemlocks are already gone. The **Long Island Invasive Species Management Area (LIISMA)** is focused on preserving genetic diversity of hemlock trees in the region. If you find HWA on your property, consider management and treatment options, or if you have a hemlock hedge on your property, consider getting involved with our biocontrol program. Information on management, treatment, and our hemlock hedge program for landowners can be found at [nyshemlockinitiative.info/hwa-in-ny](http://nyshemlockinitiative.info/hwa-in-ny). **If you know of a healthy hemlock stand, please let us know!** We would like to collect cones and investigate possible resistance in local hemlock populations as this could be a huge finding in combating the spread of HWA. At the NYS Hemlock Initiative we are also interested in pine bark adelgid, which appears as white, woolly patches on pine trunks. Pine bark adelgid and the presence of its natural predators may help us in our search to find local predators that will eat HWA. Please check your pine trees for infestations. **If you detect evidence of pine bark adelgid, please let us know!** Email us at [info@nyshemlockinitiative.info](mailto:info@nyshemlockinitiative.info).

## Getting Involved in Your Region

### Long Island Invasive Species Management Area (LIISMA)

Website: [www.liisma.org](http://www.liisma.org)

Regional Cornell Cooperative Extension County Offices:

Nassau – (516) 433-7970 | Suffolk – (631) 727-7850

