

Communication Update

To: Mayor and Members of City Council
Date: September 14, 2026
Subject/Report No.: 2026 Treatment for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid
Ward(s) Affected: City Wide
Submitted By: Cynthia Graham
Director
Environmental Services
Public Works

Signature:



Summary

This Communication Update provides Council with information on the Forestry and Horticulture Section's Hemlock Woolly Adelgid treatment program in the City of Hamilton.

Background

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency regulated area for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid includes the City of Hamilton, Regional Municipality of Niagara, Haldimand County, and the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand.

Initial detection of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid in Hamilton occurred in March of 2023, which led to pesticide treatments in 2024 and 2025, in collaboration with the Royal Botanical Gardens. The pest has now been confirmed throughout the Dundas Valley by the Hamilton Conservation Authority.

Details

In response to the continued spread of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, staff have assessed and selected 174 eastern hemlock trees for treatment on City-owned lands adjacent to the newly detected infestation. The selected trees are in Highland Park Open Space and Sanctuary Park (Appendix A). Treatment will begin in early fall of 2026 in collaboration with the Hamilton Conservation Authority to ensure widespread protection.

Subject: 2026 Treatment for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (City Wide)

Trees will be treated with the pesticide IMAjet 10 through trunk injection. This treatment differs from the previously used product, TreeAzin, due to its demonstrated effectiveness in addressing the current level of infestation.

IMAjet 10 is applied through trunk injection, which limits exposure to the surrounding environment compared to other application methods. Applications will be completed in accordance with the product label and regulatory requirements to minimize risks to people, pets, wildlife, and non-target species.

Next Steps

Treatments are anticipated to take place in late September 2026. Information will be communicated through social media, the City of Hamilton website, and targeted communication with adjacent landowners.

For further information please contact Robyn Pollard, Manager of Forestry and Horticulture by phone at (905) 546-2424 ext. 3919, or by e-mail at Robyn.Pollard@hamilton.ca.

Appendices and Schedules Attached

Appendix A: Treatment Locations

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