

Communication Update

To: Mayor and Members of City Council
Date: October 6, 2026
Subject/Report No.: Spotted Lanternfly Detected in Ontario
Ward(s) Affected: City Wide
Submitted By: Cynthia Graham
Director
Environmental Services
Public Works

Signature:



Summary

This Communication Update provides Council with an update on the detection of Spotted Lanternfly in Ontario.

Background

On September 15th, 2026, the first detection of Spotted Lanternfly in Canada was confirmed by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in Windsor, Ontario. This invasive pest has been regulated in Canada since 2018 and has been established in the northeastern United States since 2014.

Details

Spotted Lanternfly is a highly destructive, sap sucking insect with over 100 plant hosts. It has the ability to significantly harm the fruit and wine industry and threatens approximately 43% of Hamiltons total public tree inventory. Spotted Lanternfly will lay eggs on almost any flat surface, its most preferred being the invasive Tree of Heaven. Human transportation plays a major role in the spread of this pest, carrying eggs and hitchhiking adults on vehicles and trains.

Next Steps

Early detection is critical for controlling the spread of Spotted Lanternfly. Surveillance the initial detection's surrounding area is currently underway by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to determine the extent of establishment. Forestry will continue to monitor news and guidelines

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as determined by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and will keep Council informed of any changes.

Appendices and Schedules Attached

None