ATTENTION CLCA MEMBERS WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!!

WOOLLY ADELGID IS AN INSECT THAT POSES A SERIOUS THREAT TO THE HEMLOCKS TREES THAT SURROUND OUR LAKE AND POPULATE OUR FORESTS. IT HAS BEEN FOUND NEARBY IN THE ROCKWOOD FOREST.

THE ADIRONDACK PARK INVASIVE PLANT PROGRAM (APIPP) HAS ASKED FOR OUR HELP IN KEEPING A WATCH OUT FOR THIS PEST.

What is the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid?
It is an invasive, aphid-like insect that attacks North American hemlocks. It is very small (1.5 mm) and hard to see, but can be identified by the white woolly masses they form on the underside of branches at the base of the needles.

Woolly Adelgid insert their long mouthparts and begin feeding on the tree. They remain in the same spot for the rest of their lives, continually feeding and developing into adults. Their feeding damages the canopy of the tree by disrupting the flow of nutrients to its twigs and needles. Tree health declines, and mortality usually occurs within 4 to 10 years.

The loss of hemlocks can dramatically change ecosystem processes and may result in the loss of unique plants and wildlife as well as other problems such as erosion and higher fire risk.

WHAT WE ARE ASKING YOU TO DO:

We are asking all CLCA members to check the hemlock trees on your property this June for the presence of Wooly Adelgid. Hemlocks are the evergreen trees that are very recognizable because they have a feathery silhouette and have a drooped peak (like trees from Whoville in Dr. Suess's books). Needles are flat and are green on top and have two white stripes on the bottom. They have shorter needles than fir trees and have small cones.

For more detailed information on identification of hemlocks and woolly adelgid:
https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/blogs.cornell.edu/dist/f/7151/files/2016/12/2018_Hemlock-and-HWA_ID-Guide_FactSheet-1xff0wq.pdf

WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP US MONITOR THE AREA.

Here is a view of an underside of an infected branch in the winter and early spring.

Here is a magnified view of the adelgid from late spring to the fall:

If you believe you have found Woolly Adelgid:

- Take pictures of the infestation signs as described above (include something for scale such as a coin or ruler).
- Note the location (intersecting roads, landmarks or GPS coordinates).

Contact :

Zachary Simek

Terrestrial Invasive Species Project Coordinator, Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP)
zachary.simek@TNC.org
(518) 576-2082

He will take information about the location and provide advice as how to deal with the infestation. APIPP may be able to offer assistance in treating localized infestations.

If you have any questions about what to do or would like to volunteer to help monitor wooly adelgid in the area you can also call Marcus Harazin from the CLCA Invasive Species Committee (518)928-7525 email: marcusharazin@gmail.com.

Information about chemical control. Chemical insecticides can be used to treat an already infested tree or as a preventive measure in a high-risk infestation area. They are useful for treating individual, ornamental, or high-value trees, but are not practical or economical in a forest setting. Two insecticides that have shown promising results are Imidacloprid and Dinotefuran. Both must be applied by a licensed pesticide applicator, and either can kill HWA on its own. Applying both insecticides to an infested tree, however, combines the immediate effectiveness of the fast-acting Dinotefuran with the long-term protection of Imidacloprid, leaving the tree adelgid free for up to seven years.

For more information on treatments available to prevent woolly adelgid see:

https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/hwamgmtfaq.pdf

See also the CLCA website: http://www.canadalakesconservation.com/hemlock-woolly-adelgid/