

## **Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County**

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### **Lower Hudson Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) Contract Number: 22-005**

#### **Spotted Lanternfly: Early Detection and Stop the Spread**

#### **Final Report, January 6, 2022**

Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC), working with other CCEs in the region, spread awareness of SLF to residents and visitors, delivered education and training to professionals and created a group of “Citizen Scientists” volunteers to help stop SLFs spread.

Established populations of Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) were confirmed throughout the Lower Hudson region. It was critical to keep a proactive focus on the presence and spread of SLF pest while research continues for methods of control.

The goal was to engage more people to slow or stop the spread of SLF in our counties, to encourage more people to scout and report especially in travel corridors and large events or destinations which draw visitors from outside our region, to increase the likelihood of early detection and to provide a visible and proven source of research-based information on SLF for those with questions. SLF detection reports were sent to [spottedlanternfly@agriculture.ny.gov](mailto:spottedlanternfly@agriculture.ny.gov)

**Dutchess Dirt Newsletters, July through December (6 months) reached over 2000 residents each month**, raising public awareness with relevant updates. Information included descriptions of the pest’s life cycle, status of its spread, identification of it and its favorite host, Tree of Heaven. A call to action each month included encouragement to scout for and report their presence and absence, and a reminder to report and findings instructions how to do so. The workshops were also advertised.

**A five-minute radio spot on WBPM 92.9 fm/96.5fm** with a potential audience of over 25,000 adults ran twice in Mid-September. The interview included all the talking points in a question-and-answer format including identification and harm with the call to action to scout and report it.

**Lower Hudson PRISM workshops reached 264 (146 Master Gardeners, 118 other attendees** including Dutchess County Parks staff.). To encourage citizen science activities, workshops were delivered around the region. Content was an hour to 90-minute presentation and discussion including current locations, status of research, SLF identification, lifecycle, harm, spread, hosts, TOH identification and control, reporting, citizen science, iMapInvasives & Adopt a Grid and other resources. Educational materials were highlighted from NYS DEC, NYS Ag & Mkts, NYS IPM and the Lower Hudson PRISM

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### **Dutchess County Fair for 6 days, reached nearly 700 people.**

Used the NYS IPM [“Have you Spotted Lanternfly”](#) poster with the Aug 8 updated map taped over the old one. The approach was “Have you seen it”. Then “Where?”. Used enlarged copy of the map and explained status of NY counties. Urged if seen anywhere outside of NY City to [Take a Photo and Report It!!!](#). Used the [NYS IPM Checklist](#), pointed out the photos on the back and instructions how to report it. Provided additional information including Ag & Mkts flyers. Led many and good long discussions about slowing its spread while research continues on controls.

To date SLF has been confirmed in the entire Lower Hudson Region, with just a few reported in Dutchess County. The importance of proactive scouting and reporting has been repeated whenever, wherever possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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CCEDC Community Horticulture Resource Educator