

Spotted Lanternflies Seen Widely in the New York City Area

By Don Sutherland

According to the [U.S. Department of Agriculture](#), the Spotted Lanternfly, which is native to China, was first detected in Pennsylvania in September 2014. Nearly a decade later, the insect has been spotted in 14 states: Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, and West Virginia.

The Spotted Lanternfly feeds on trees, crops, and other plants, though it seems to favor certain trees. They also lay their eggs on a wide range of surfaces ranging from hardwood trees to cars.

2023 has seen perhaps its largest number, yet, in the New York City area. The insect can be found throughout the City. In spots it covers sections of trees.

Two photos from the New York City area:



