



The Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP) is looking for volunteer Lanternfly Spotters to monitor for Spotted Lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*). Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive pest from Asia that feeds on 100 plant species including tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), maples, apple trees, grapevine, and hops. Lanternfly feeding stresses plants, making them vulnerable to disease and attacks from other insects. Lanternflies excrete large amounts of sticky "honeydew," which attracts sooty molds that interfere with plant photosynthesis, negatively affecting the growth and fruit yield of plants.

Lanternfly Spotter Position Description

The primary responsibility of Lanternfly Spotters is to work with CRISP staff to check and service existing Spotted Lanternfly sticky traps that have been placed in high-risk-of-spread locations around the Catskills region. We asking each Spotter to commit to visiting at least one Spotted Lanternfly trap every two weeks through September.

CRISP staff will show volunteers how to identify tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) and how to put up and replace the sticky traps. A sticky trap will be placed 3-4 ft. above the ground on a tree-of-heaven trunk by CRISP staff or the Lanternfly Spotter. Every two weeks, the Spotter should check the trap for Spotted Lanternfly individuals and to replace the sticky band.

In replacing the trap, the Lanternfly Spotter should take the old trap down, and put a fresh sticky band around the trunk, secured with push pins. Then send an email to John Thompson at jthompson@catskillcenter.org with their name, the trap number, and the date it was replaced.

The Lanternfly Spotter should look over the sticky surface of the trap for Spotted Lanternfly larvae or adults. If nothing is found, the old trap can be thrown away in the trash. If a Spotted Lanternfly is caught on the old trap, the Spotter should photograph the trap (including the sticker with trap number, and the insect) and email the photos to the Spotted Lanternfly hotline at spottedlanternfly@dec.ny.gov and cc jthompson@catskillcenter.org. The Spotter should also fold the trap into a gallon size ziplock bag, and keep the bag in a dark, cool location. On confirmation that the insect is Spotted Lanternfly, CRISP staff will email the Spotter with instructions on where to send the sample bag.

The Lanterfly Spotter is also encouraged to report any new populations of tree-of-heaven that they find via the New York State invasive species reporting tool [iMapInvasives](#). In the notes section of each reported infestation, the Spotter should record if the infestation has *Ailanthus* larger than 6 inches in diameter. CRISP staff will gladly provide iMapInvasives training to anyone interested in reporting Invasive Species.

To volunteer, email John Thompson, CRISP Coordinator, jthompson@catskillcenter.org or call (845) 586-2611 x 120.