



THE CONNECTICUT ARBORIST

Volume XXVII, Number II

Connecticut Tree Protective Association, Inc.

Winter 2016-2017

CTPA Annual Meeting is Coming Up Soon, on January 19th

CTPA is gearing up for another great Annual Meeting – its 95th in a row, for those counting. The Board of Directors has assembled an outstanding roster of speakers to accompany the trade show, the excellent lunch and, best of all, the terrific camaraderie that this annual event is all about. We hope everyone has the opportunity to attend.

The choice of speakers for this year's Annual Meeting began with a discussion of the ANSI A300 standard. This standard owes its ongoing value to the fact that it continues to evolve over time. As new ideas and techniques are brought forward and as research is refined by field applications, and vice versa, new understandings are developed.

There is a process for incorporating these new understandings back into the standards. The committee for doing that – the Accredited Standards Committee or ASC – actively solicits feedback from the arboricultural community at large and weighs its value and importance in connection with the standard.

There are, at the moment, ten published parts and one proposed part to the A300 Standards. In putting together this year's meeting, the CTPA Board largely focused on Part 1, the Pruning Standard and Part 3, the Supplemental Support Standard. The board wondered, "Where is the conversation currently on this topic? Can we bring that to our meeting?"

The Speakers

As a result, **Dr. Brian Kane** of the University of Massachusetts and **Wayne Dubin** of Bartlett Tree Experts have been invited to speak at the meeting. Wayne will be speaking first, before lunch, with Brian following in the afternoon. Earlier in the day, **Dr. Michael Donoghue**, a botanist at Yale University and **Dr. Jeff Ward**, Scientist at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, will also be giving talks, on topics not focused on the standards.

Wayne Dubin's talk will be on "ANSI A300 – the New Pruning Standards". Wayne is a Vice President of Bartlett Tree Experts and Division Manager for their New Jersey and New York offices, exclusive of Long Island. He spoke most recently at the 2015 CTPA Annual Meeting, where he discussed the involvement of Bartlett Tree Experts in the growing and planting of the oak trees at the 911 Memorial in New York City.

Wayne is also a member of the ASC for the ANSI A300. While it is tempting to say that hearing from Wayne is a chance to hear directly from someone responsible for writing the standard, that is not exactly true. The standard is meant to be a consensus standard, in which all of the participants in tree care are invited to contribute. In the end, the committee is not so much writing the standard as recording,

continued on page 6



Rich Mitchell, CTPA Past President, is stepping down from the Board come this year's Annual Meeting. This picture is from the 2008 Summer Meeting.

CTPA Annual Meeting, January 19, 2017 - The Aqua Turf, Plantsville, CT

Neonicotinoids in the Pollinator Health Bill

In last year's legislative session, Connecticut's General Assembly passed a forward-looking bill on pollinator health. This bill also provides for new regulation on the use of neonicotinoid insecticides. This bill, now known as Public Act 16-17, calls upon the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station to establish a Pollinator Advisory Committee, to report to the legislature. The Public Act also calls on the state Office of Policy and Management to identify opportunities at the state and local level to increase

pollinator habitat, encourages the Department of Agriculture to include the establishment of model pollinator habitat in its conservation plans, encourages the Department of Transportation to identify opportunities for the replacement of non-native, cool season turf grasses along state highways with model pollinator habitat, and requires the Experiment Station to compile a citizen's guide to model pollinator habitat. The PA also gives the Siting Council the authority to order the establishment of such model habitats along transmission right-of-ways during restoration projects.

The Neonicotinoids

The legislation defines what a neonicotinoid is. Included in the definition is a requirement that covered chemicals have an LD50 of 2 micrograms or less.

The new law overviews the potential for dust from treated seeds to affect pollinators and outlines what should be done to mitigate this problem.

With regards to arborists, the provisions of most interest are:

- All neonicotinoids covered by the legislation shall be classified by DEEP as restricted use
- No person shall apply, in any manner, a neonicotinoid to any linden or basswood in the state (most labels already have this restriction)

- Neonicotinoids may not be applied to any plant in blossom unless that plant is in a greenhouse inaccessible to pollinators

- Any plants so treated in a greenhouse must be determined to be safe for pollinators if they are to be sold or planted outside the greenhouse after treatment.

DEEP Notices on Selling Neonic's

Since these provisions greatly affect the sale of neonicotinoid insecticides, including the vast array of imidacloprid-based products currently available to the public, DEEP has produced two notices regarding the implementation of this legislation. These notices are available on the DEEP Pesticides Program website – www.ct.gov/deep/pesticides.

The first notice is a list of registered, neonicotinoid-based pesticides that have been re-classified effective January 1, 2017 as restricted use pesticides. Some 244 individual products are included on this list. Ahead of a list of these products, the notice states, "On and after that date (January 1, 2017), none of the pesticides listed below, including, but not limited to, any existing inventory at retailers, can be offered for sale, sold, or used, without full compliance with the requirements for restricted-use pesticides."

continued on page 8

CONNECTICUT TREE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

PO Box 1946
Wallingford, CT 06492
203-484-2512
fax: 203-793-7824

PRESIDENT
Charlie Iselin

VICE PRESIDENT
Bud Neal

SECRETARY - TREASURER
Allan Fenner

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Cathy Dvorsky

DIRECTORS

Pat Flynn
Chris Donnelly
Dr. Claire Rutledge
Karl Reichle
Sean Redding
Mike Almstead
Ken Bullard
Rich Mitchell
Emmett Shutts

*We advance the care of
Connecticut's trees.*

Newsletter Staff and Editor
Chris Donnelly

The Connecticut Arborist
is an official publication of the
Connecticut Tree Protective
Association

CTPA's Web Site - www.CTPA.org

Upcoming CTPA events: The CTPA board is already at work planning for a busy 2017. The **Education Committee** is in the process of organizing a **Winter Tree Identification Workshop** for mid-March, to be held at Connecticut College. The **Arbor Day Committee** has already sent out notices to the fifth grade classes around the state, soliciting posters for the **Annual Arbor Day Poster Contest**. Meanwhile, the **Climbing Competition** is laying out plans for this year's competition, to take place in early May. Notices on these events will be sent out shortly. Each of these Committees are able to move forward under the strong guidance of their chairs, but they could all use a hand to keep them going. To volunteer to assist with these or any of CTPA's Committees, please contact the CTPA office at cathy@ctpa.org or 203-484-2512.

The Gypsy Moth - the Return of a Non-native

The gypsy moth has again become a topic of conversation in Connecticut. For years, in the 1970's and 80's, arborists prepared for gypsy moth outbreaks the way a farmer might prepare for a bumper crop, or maybe a hailstorm, as the major infestations of those years tended to overwhelm even the most ready tree care company.

We are a long way from being near to that situation today. Still, this is a good time to brush off the lessons of those years and to educate ourselves as to what this insect is about.

The Experiment Station Fact Sheet

This history of the gypsy moth in Connecticut is well summarized by Dr. Kirby Stafford in the Gypsy Moth Fact Sheet available on the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station web site. This Fact Sheet also includes excellent information on what can be done regarding the gypsy moth, including a summary chart of treatments that may be used.

In recent decades, the gypsy moth has been a persistent problem in Middlesex County, with patchy outbreaks throughout parts of that county and neighboring New Haven County, but not of much note elsewhere. In 2015, the extent of the gypsy moth outbreak in south central Connecticut spread considerably and, in 2016, took off, in New Haven and Middlesex Counties, but also in New London and Windham counties. As they might say in the horror movie, it's back! At least for now.

If we go back to the early 1990's, the hero of the day that brought the gypsy moth under control was an introduced fungus, *Entomophaga maimaiga*. This fungus entered the scene quite surprisingly, for it had been released several decades earlier and did little. It was thought to be ineffective and had essentially been forgotten. Seemingly out of nowhere, starting in 1989, this fungus revived itself and began suppressing the population of gypsy

moth caterpillars. Within just a few years, unexpectedly, the gypsy moth was more of a footnote than a problem.

The Current Situation

Not this past year. A major reason for the current problem is that the maimaiga fungus needs spring rains to become activated. Its spores can sit resting in leaf litter for up to a decade, but, without sufficient moisture, they will remain dormant.

The effectiveness of the maimaiga fungus comes from the fact that its annual life cycle overlaps with that of the gypsy moth. The spores break dormancy just when the insect is in the caterpillar stage and spending a lot of time both on the ground and up in the trees. This exposes the gypsy moth larvae to infection and these infected larvae then become breeding factories for the fungus. As they die they release a deadly wave of spores upon their fellow gypsy moth caterpillars. At the end of the season, a renewed cache of resting spores is stored away in the leaf litter, awaiting next year's rains and next year's gypsy moth caterpillars.

If we have a wet spring in 2017, we can look for this pattern to repeat itself, breaking backwards the surge of the gypsy moth population. If not, there is cause for concern. Prior to the fungus, the historical pattern had been for gypsy moth outbreaks to spread all over the state. For this reason, this is something for all arborists in the state to pay attention to.

In parts of the state already hit by the gypsy, the situation may be ripe for another free-living bio-control to exert itself. At low gypsy moth population levels, the nuclear polyhedrosis virus, or NPV, is present among the gypsy moths, but also at low levels. It causes a disease among the moth larva. When gypsy moths go into outbreak mode, the amount of NPV in the population also tends

continued on page 4



A tree in Northford, from the 2015 gypsy moth infestation.



A close-up of these moths. 4 females and a male can be seen.

The Gypsy Moth Returns (*continued*)

to explode, to the point that it blunts or reverses a mass outbreak. There is a lag to this happening, however. This expansion of the NPV infestation does not usually happen until the gypsy moth outbreak enters its second or third year. We may be set-up in 2017 for NPV to have a role in controlling this insect in areas already hard hit. Perhaps, in turn, this could slow the gypsy moth's spread to areas not currently undergoing a severe infestation.

Strategies for 2017

Of course, we don't know exactly what will happen. It may turn out that we do not get sufficient rain in 2017 for the fungus and that NPV is not a factor. Likely, clients will begin to ask tree care companies to do something to protect their trees from the gypsy moth. So, what can an arborist do to become prepared?

As mentioned, the Experiment Station has an excellent fact sheet, with a comprehensive list of possible treatments. Becoming familiar with that document would be the first recommendation.

Arborists, along with their clients, could seek to remove and destroy as many of the egg masses as possible. This is a time consuming approach that is not apt to be fully successful, but it does help. Fortunately, these egg masses are easy to see. Unfortunately, many of these egg masses are higher up in the trees or hidden in places such as beneath bark flaps or under the eaves of buildings, where they are hard to spot and harder to remove. Whatever the number of egg masses removed, there are many others likely to be missed.

The eggs masses can also be targeted through the use of horticultural oils and insecticidal soaps. One limitation with the use of soaps or oils is that they need to thoroughly coat all egg masses to be fully effective. This includes the hidden ones and those buried beneath other egg masses.

Another limitation in targeting the egg masses is the extent to which young gypsy moth larvae move around. First instar larvae will 'balloon', or travel on the silk threads they weave, and so can move in from trees on adjacent properties. Larvae will also crawl to preferred host trees. Studies on dispersal have found that young larvae will readily move up to 300 feet in all directions away from where they hatched. Even if all egg masses are removed on a property, the trees may end up infested anyways by caterpillars from these adjacent trees.

Other Control Methods

Most treatments, past and present, have focused on controlling the feeding larvae. In the past, broad spectrum insecticides such as carbaryl and acephate applied as foliar sprays were the treatments of choice.

In the 1980's, dimilin (diflubenzuron - a synthetic insect growth regular) became popular. In the 1990's, synthetic pyrethroids such as cyfluthrin, bifenthrin, permethrin and fluvalinate joined the list. These chemicals are still considered effective and are good tools to keep in the arsenal.

Over the past couple of decades, the options for arborists have multiplied. Now, the available tools include a greater range of systemic insecticides and injectable formulations, along with new classes of insecticides, such as the neonicotinoids and the so-called 'bio-rational' insecticides, including spinosad and azadirachtin. In addition, arboriculture has seen the incorporation of concepts associated with integrated pest management and plant health control.

Biological controls are an option for gypsy moths. In low level populations, deer mice are cited as a main predator on the gypsy moth. While increasing the mouse population is unlikely to be a strategy employed by arborists, there is a biological control that arborists can consider. *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki*, often abbreviated as BTK, is a potent killer of gypsy moth larvae that has been formulated into commercially available spray products.

In a more experimental vein, it has been suggested that, in dry years, spring irrigation of the leaf litter under gypsy moth prone trees might activate the maimaiga fungus. It is not known, however, whether this approach would succeed. The excess use of water might also be discouraged in a time of drought.

One Arborist's Approach

Alan Roy, owner of Arborist Services LLC in Andover is a veteran of the gypsy moth wars of the 70's, 80's and 90's. He knows the signs of a gypsy moth buildup, and so when he noted that the number of gypsy moth egg masses had reached into the hundreds of thousand per acre on his client's properties, he could see where this was heading. He took steps, supplementing his fleet with a second-hand Bean sprayer with a 1,000 gallon tank and lining up customers in towns such as Andover and Hebron for gypsy moth sprays.

Alan prefers to use Crosscheck, a bifenthrin product that works well with a hydraulic sprayer. He considers BTK as a good alternative, especially on properties near waterways or with a lot of pets.

Alan chose a foliar application over an injectable treatment largely because he finds it more cost effective for his customers. Treating individual trees takes more time and only protects the treated tree. His approach is more to treat properties than individual trees. With the

continued on page 5

The Gypsy Moth Returns (*continued*)

sprays, he uses two applications timed about 10 days to two weeks apart.

Alan's decision to use the pyrethroid-based product is based on his sense that it is just as effective but safer and more environmentally-friendly than the carbamate-based sprays used in the old days. It carries a caution label, works well in relatively low doses and lasts as a residual on leaves. When asked about the use of horticultural oils, he said simply that he does not feel that one could get effective coverage throughout the large crowns and into all of the hidden spaces within which the egg masses will be hidden.

Working with Homeowners

Arborists might consider drawing homeowners into participating in the control of the gypsy moth. The scraping of egg masses or the spot treatment with oils or soap can help eliminate a fair number of the larvae. It will also help the homeowner develop an awareness of the extent of the problem. This awareness of the insect can be beneficial, particularly in identifying a growing

population.

In season, the use of burlap or sticky tapes around the trunk of the tree can be effective in reducing the population of feeding caterpillars. Because these methods are intensive and require direct interaction between the client and the insect, they may not be for everyone. However, they could be a good option for a chemically-averse client who is also uncomfortable with BTK.

It can be argued that the gypsy moth is the insect that is most responsible for shaping the way arborists have approached pest control. It has certainly been a chief factor in the growth of the science behind pest management and a key to the evolution of how arborists work with pests and trees. If 2017 turns out to be a year in which the gypsy moth outbreaks of the previous two years continue, arborists will be called upon, probably in a very public way, to show how these tools can be used effectively and why knowledge of pests and pest control is an important component of tree care.

Notes from the DEEP Arborist and Pesticide Program (as renewal time approaches)

By Linda E. Schmidt, Certification and Training Coordinator, Pesticide Program

Pesticide Use Summary Sheet.

Pesticide use summary sheets must be submitted by all certified supervisors annually. If, on your summary sheet, you want to refer to another supervisor's submission (e.g. your boss), under Part II (Reporting Period), check Box #2 and provide the supervisor's name and number.

If you did not apply any pesticides, check Box #3. In that case, only Page 1 and Page 3 need to be completed.

Pesticide use sheets may be submitted electronically by email to: Deep.PesticideProgram@ct.gov

Business Registration.

Practicing arborists must, if working on their own, register their business or be working for a registered business. If a business is subcontracting their arboriculture work to another company, both companies will need to register as arboriculture businesses.

Records for non-pesticide work (pruning, cabling, etc.) must be kept for 5 years by these businesses.

Notify DEEP of any address change within 30 days.

Operator Exams.

The pesticide operators examination is given on specified dates throughout the year – see the DEEP website for dates. It is a walk-in exam. Pre-registration is not required. Confirmation letters are not sent out.

An applicant may take the test prior to submitting the application and fee. However, the test will not be processed until both the application and fee are received.

Applications and fees are processed through the Central Permit Processing Unit (CPPU). After the application and fee have cleared, the CPPU lets the Pesticide Program know. If the exam has been already taken, it is then reviewed. If you'd like the certificate to be processed quickly after the exam has been taken, send the application and fee in at least two weeks before the scheduled exam date.

General Notes.

The Pesticide Program is trying to do as many things as possible electronically. Be sure that our emails do not end up in your spam folder! Please indicate your *current email address* on your certificate renewal form when you receive it.

Times to be looking for emails from the Pesticide Program: March/April the abutters list, May/June business registration renewals, November/December pesticide use summary sheets.

Arborists are Certified Supervisors. Certified Supervisors whose last names end in the letters D through H are up for renewal and must renew by the end of January 2017.

Please be patient with us in the Pesticide Program. We respond to all of our emails and listen to all of our voicemails. If you leave multiple voicemails, it takes time to go through them all. Sometimes cell phones cut out. Please repeat your phone number - slowly - twice.

Pesticide Program Website: www.ct.gov/deep/pesticides

CTPA Annual Meeting (*continued*)

through the standard, the agreed-upon viewpoint of the professionals who make up the tree care industry. In that sense, Wayne will be at the meeting to be a part of a conversation that will help inform the next version of the ANSI A300 Standards, especially Part One.

Readers who wish to learn more about the ANSI A300 Standards are encouraged to visit the TCIA website (www.TCIA.org) and then to view the menu under “Business”).

In the afternoon, Brian Kane will give us a look at the research that he and others are doing on biomechanics. Dr. Kane has been on the faculty of the University of Massachusetts in Amherst since 2004, where he is Professor of Commercial Arboriculture. Prior to that, Brian made his living as a commercial arborist, working on Long Island, developing the experiences and understanding of arboriculture that would inform his academic career.

The title of Brian’s talk is “Arboricultural Biomechanics – How Arboricultural Practice Affects the Likelihood of Tree Failure”. Brian’s research interests include the mechanisms of tree failure and the influence that treatments such as pruning and cabling have on a tree’s behavior, including a tree’s response to wind.

Brian is one of a current wave of researchers and practitioners who are investigating the patterns of tree failure, in order to develop a broader understanding of the structural mechanisms that explain those failures. Cabling and pruning are arboricultural practices arborists use to counter conditions that exist within a tree – decay, included bark, branch angle, and so on – that influence the strength and stability of a tree. These practices also affect how a tree behaves, mechanically and structurally. Exactly what is it that an arborist does, in terms of how the tree then behaves, that makes a tree safer or better? There is a lot of good information coming out of this research. Brian will fill us in on what he and his students are doing at UMass.

People who want a peek into this research are invited to Brian’s YouTube site at: www.youtube.com/user/cladrastis.

The Business Session

On January 19th, the day will start with CTPA’s Business Session. This is an important part of the annual gathering. During the Business Session, the Association will conduct essential business, including the election of a slate of Officers and Directors for the coming year and the delivery of its annual financial report.

Following this needed business, the Business Session will be opened to discussion, for members to bring up issues of importance. The board has suggested two topics for discussion this year. The first is that of pesticides, particularly the use of pesticides on school grounds. The

board is interested in the members’ views, to help guide it in its consideration of this and similar topics over the coming year. The second topic is the outreach campaign that has resulted in the ‘Go to the Top’ logo. The board is not seeking to limit discussion to just these two topics. All members are encouraged to attend.

More Speakers

Following the Business Session, Charlie Iselin, before he steps down as President, will introduce Dr. Michael Donoghue as our opening speaker. Dr. Donoghue is a personal acquaintance of Charlie and so Charlie invited Mike to “talk trees”. Mike is Sterling Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Yale University and Curator of Botany at the Peabody Museum in New Haven. Mike knows trees in a depth of detail and from a perspective that attendees, as tree experts themselves, will find highly engaging. During his talk on “Evolutionary Biology”, Mike will talk about why it is that different trees are different, while giving a glimpse into the techniques and approaches that today’s scientists use. This talk is sure to be broadening as well as helpful, with some very interesting bits of information and insight.

Following this first talk, CTPA will welcome back Dr. Jeff Ward of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. Jeff is Station Forester and is Chief Scientist in the Station’s Division of Forestry and Horticulture as well as the Department Head. He is a Past-President of CTPA and was previously a long-time board member. Jeff has participated in CTPA activities in many capacities, from speaker to organizer to chair and onto to all of the various roles on the Board of Directors. CTPA is pleased to welcome him back to the stage.

Jeff’s talk will be on “Right Tree, Right Place.” Storms and concerns about tree failure continue to dominate the landscape of tree policy in Connecticut. The concept of the right tree being planted in the right place is a keystone of this policy. But, what does “right tree, right place” mean? Jeff will offer some fresh views on this subject.

After lunch, attendees will hear from Diane Jorsey of the CT DEEP and Dr. Ted Andreadis, Director of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. Diane will be discussing events over the past year within the pesticide program at DEEP of importance to arborists and tree care. She will also look to the future, including sharing some comments about what the legislature may take up in this year’s session. Dr. Andreadis will review the activities of the Experiment Station over the past year, including those involving the emerald ash borer, the gypsy moth, the southern pine beetle and the drought. Both state agencies are strong partners with CTPA and share in the mission to advance the care of trees in Connecticut.

continued on page 7

Three CTPA Board Members Stepping Down

Three board members have announced their intention to step down this year from the CTPA Board. **Rich Mitchell, Ken Bullard** and **Karl Reichle** have each expressed their decision to move on.

Rich served longest on the board, having joined in 2012. Rich was a bit of a trailblazer, being the first Allied Member to join. He dug right in, participating in several committees and then in each of the officer positions. In 2015, Rich served as CTPA President.

Ken joined in 2013 and made his mark on the board as a reliable 'go-to' guy, always willing to take on the difficult assignment. He offered and gave much, including in his role as Chair of the Scholarship Committee.

Karl is the most recent of the board members, joining in 2014. Karl added greatly to the liveliness of board meetings, through his keen insight and deeply-felt commentary. He was also always the first to show up to lend a hand and his departure will leave big shoes to fill. All three deserve the full thanks of the Association for working to keep it strong and moving along the right path, through the generous donation of their time and



CTPA President Charlie Iselin, who is stepping down as President at this year's Annual Meeting. New Officers and a new Board will be elected at the Meeting's Business Session.

energy. And now, with Kevin Wyatt and Greg Foran joining the board, CTPA membership can continue to be very confident as to the future of the organization.

CTPA Annual Meeting (*continued*)

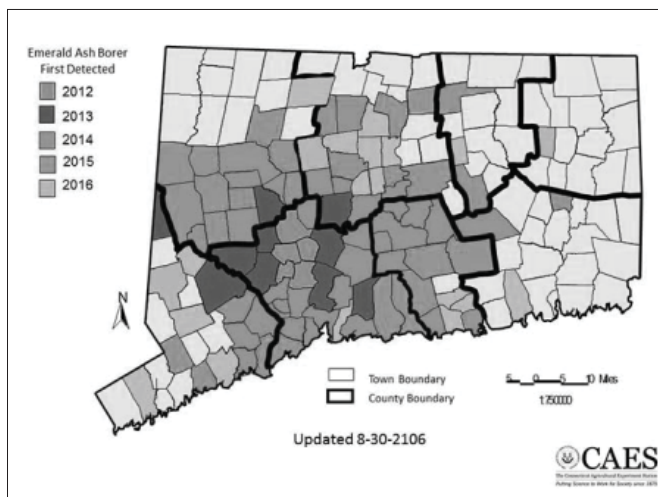
The Trade Show

For some attendees, the highlight of the meeting is the trade show, which will be sold out again this year. There is always something for everybody. The CTPA expects about 60 booths filled with exhibitors, with new products to sell and new services to offer. Also among the exhibitors will be organizations such as the OSHA and the Experiment Station, at the meeting to provide updates, guidance and useful knowledge regarding issues the members find important. The trade show hall is always a very happening place during the CTPA meeting.

Attendees will receive a great meal, courtesy of the Aqua Turf, and will be eligible to receive continuing education credits from CT DEEP (4.25 ceu's for arborists, 1.5 ceu's for ornamental and turf licensees; 2.0 ceu's for Forest Practitioners), ISA (4.25 ceu's), TCIA (1.5 ceu's for CTSP) and the Tree Wardens Association (4.25 ceu's for the advanced certification).

People may register on-line or download a registration form by going to www.CTPA.org. Anyone with questions should contact the CTPA office at 203-484-2512.

We look forward to seeing you on January 19th!!



The extent of the emerald ash borer infestation, as of August 30th. EAB was found in 20 new towns this past year.



From this fall's EAB workshop in Monroe, organized by Claire Rutledge and Bud Neal. Bud helps out spotting a larva.

Nominees for the CTPA Board are Announced



CTPA Board 2016-17: (1st row) Bud Neal, Charlie Iselin, Cathy Dvorsky, Claire Rutledge, Sean Redding. (2nd row) Ken Bullard, Greg Foran, Mike Almstead, Emmett Shutts, Pat Flynn, Allan Fenner, Kevin Wyatt, Chris Donnelly. (Absent) Karl Reichle.

To all who work with trees in CT: a happy, safe and prosperous New Year!

The nominees for the CTPA Board have been announced. The vote on the proposed slate will be held during the Annual Meeting Business Session.

Officers: Bud Neal (President)
Allan Fenner (Vice President)
Pat Flynn (Secretary-Treasurer)

Directors: Claire Rutledge Pat Flynn
Chris Donnelly Sean Redding
Charlie Iselin Greg Foran
Emmett Shutts Mike Almstead

Cathy Dvorsky will continue as Executive Secretary. Rich Mitchell, Ken Bullard and Karl Reichle are all stepping down from the board. Their contributions are appreciated greatly.

CTPA
PO Box 1946
Wallingsford, Connecticut 06492



Neonicotinoids and the Pollinator Health Bill (*continued*)

The second notice outlines a timeline for the distribution and sale of these re-classified products. Basically, manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors can receive orders for neonicotinoids from retailers who are not registered as restricted-use dealers through December 31, 2016. They may ship neonicotinoids based on orders received on or before that date to these retailers as long as the shipments are received by July 1, 2017. Non-restricted-use retailers have until January 1, 2018 to clear these re-classified products from their shelves, while consumers not certified for the use of restricted use pesticides have until January 1, 2019 to use up any materials they might have that was purchased prior to January 1, 2018.

The intent, as stated in this notice, is that "Retail sales of the re-classified neonicotinoids products on or after January 1, 2018 can only be made by registered Restricted-Use Dealers to licensed commercial pesticide supervisors or farmers with private applicator certification."

To see the full details, please read the notices themselves. PA 16-17 also includes two provisions directed specifically towards honey bee health. The new law requires the Experiment Station to report to the General Assembly recommendations regarding varroa mites, a major honey bee problem. It also strengthens the language regarding the State Entomologist's authority to appoint a state bee inspector, for the purpose of assessing the health of the state's honey bee hives.