

A HEALTHY TREE is a HAPPY TREE

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Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

Description: The hemlock woolly adelgid is a small (1/32 inch), reddish-purple, aphid-like insect that covers itself with a white, fluffy secretion. The hemlock woolly adelgid only survives on hemlock. Some adults have two pairs of wings. Their mouthparts are thread-like and about 1/16 inch long and used to suck sap. Sucking sap from young twigs retards or prevents tree growth and causes needles to turn grayish-green, and drop prematurely. The loss of new shoots and needles is highly detrimental to a tree's health. A tree may defoliate and die within several years.

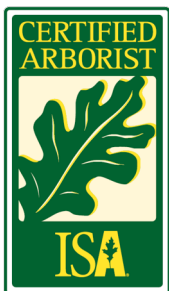


Symptoms: Causes premature needle drop, twig dieback and defoliation. Infestation results in off-color needles, often with a grayish cast.

Control: The hemlock woolly adelgid is a difficult insect to control because the fluffy white secretion protects its eggs from pesticides. A good time to attempt control is in October when the second generation begins to develop. The insecticidal soap and the horticultural oil sprays seem to be very effective for adelgid control with minimal harm to natural predators and parasites of this pest. Trees that are heavily infested and are showing symptoms of decline should probably be sprayed. Horticultural spray oil can be applied during the winter and before new growth emerges in spring.

Frady Tree Care takes great pride and passion to care for your trees. Trees are TREEMENDOUS renewable resources. They are valuable in respect to life and your landscape. We are here to serve your tree care needs by preserving and enhancing the quality of your property through tree care education and services.

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