Hemlock and HWA Hunters
Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) Boat Survey Protocol

Boat survey protocol for detecting HWA from the water:

- Look for hemlocks with pale, greyish foliage; lack of new buds in late spring and early summer; dead/dying branches
- Observe shoreline for declining hemlocks. Get nearer to shore to look at declining hemlocks closely and see if there is HWA present on twigs—REPORT IF SEEN!

What to look for:

Left: in LATE MAY-EARLY JUNE new hemlock buds SHOULD BE bright green on a healthy hemlock. Center, right: HWA-infested trees have pale foliage, dying or dead branches, and lack new buds

HWA Identification: November—June
- HWA ovisacs appear as white, waxy wool masses on hemlock twigs near the base of needles
- Best seen looking at underside of twig

HWA Identification: July-October
- Dormant black nymphs surrounded by thin halo of white wool
- Easiest to see using magnification (hand lens or magnifying glass)
- Old HWA ovisacs may still be present on twig

Other Things to Look For:
- Left: Excessive woodpecker damage from hemlock borer (native)
- Right: Elongate Hemlock Scale (invasive—REPORT!)

Reporting Protocol: Use one of the following methods to report a known HWA infestation

Use NYiMapInvasives mobile app:
- Download NYiMapInvasives app on your smartphone (App Store or Google Play); create username/password online at www.nyimapinvasives.org
- Report HWA (for infestation presence) or X-HWA (for infestation absence)
- Visit www.nyimapinvasives.org for training dates and resources
- Data uploaded into statewide invasive species map

Call DEC’s Forest Pest Information Line:
(1-866-640-0652)

Email location details/photo/GPS coordinates to NYS Hemlock Initiative:
yshemlockinitiative@cornell.edu