

MASSACHUSETTS ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE COOPERATIVE ERADICATION PROGRAM

April 17, 2009

Dear Resident:

The Massachusetts Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) Cooperative Eradication Program is committed to keeping residents informed on all tree removal activities in the Greendale/Burncoat area. The following information is to inform neighbors of tree removals that are scheduled to occur in Dodge Park.

Surveys conducted last fall and winter found that 56 trees in Dodge Park were confirmed to be infested with the Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) and were marked with a red dot. These trees must be removed to prevent further spread of the infestation in this area. In addition to the 56 infested trees, approximately 10 additional small trees (less than 8 inches in diameter) must be removed because they obstruct access required to remove the infested trees. Some of these 10 trees were initially marked with blue dots, but have since been marked with placards to indicate that they are scheduled for removal. Plans are underway to plant new trees at Dodge Park this fall.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the state Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), and the City of Worcester invite you to attend a neighborhood “walk-through” at Dodge Park on **Monday, April 27, 2009 at 5:00 P.M.** to learn more about the Asian Longhorned Beetle and to view the area for removal. The walk-through will begin at the gazebo at Dodge Park located on Randolph Road and will be held rain or shine. If you have questions relative to Dodge Park, please contact the City’s Customer Service Center at 508-929-1300. Questions relative to private property tree removals should be directed to the USDA at 508-799-8330.

Tree removals at Dodge Park are scheduled to begin Tuesday, April 28 and will be completed by Friday, May 1. A “Neighborhood Clean-Up” of Dodge Park is scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2009 from 9:00 A.M. to noon as part of Earth Day. Goals for the day include: picking up fallen branches and brush, trail maintenance, trash pick-up and assessment of the facility for future plantings and improvements in light of the Asian Longhorned Beetle damage. For more information on the clean-up, please contact site coordinator Beth Proko at 508-864-9549 or e-mail: bproko@charter.net or the Regional Environmental Council at 508-799-9139. The clean-up will be held rain or shine.

Thank you for your cooperation.



USDA ALB Worcester Office ▪ 50 Skyline Drive ▪ Worcester, MA 01604 ▪ 508-799-8330