

Lake Rabun Association Hemlock Program

As May is here, our lake area weather is in spring mode. Although many of you have been away from your lake home for the winter, **the Hemlock Woolly Adelgids (HWA's) have remained here and have been active in your Hemlocks throughout the winter.** Thus, the infestation continues to spread.





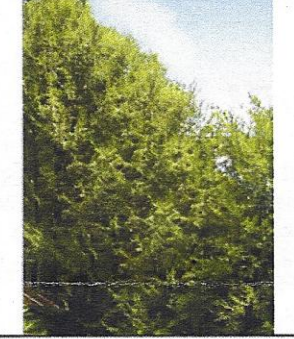
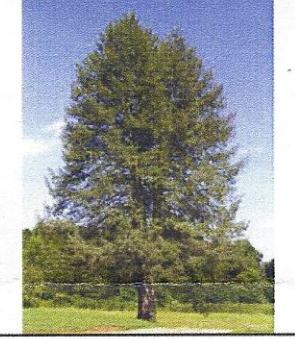
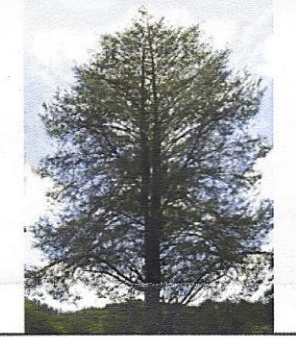
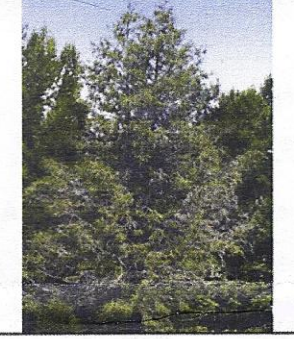
As is the case in healthcare, early detection and treatment is critical. **Spring is the prime treatment season** to address the Hemlock infestation and early, proactive treatment will insure that your trees do not join the march to early tree mortality

- Limb die-back starting from the bottom?
- Significant defoliation?

Your expanded LRA Hemlock facilitator team stands ready to support you in assessing your Hemlocks and to discuss alternatives for treatment. Contact one of them today to schedule a no cost, on-site consultation.

For those of you preferring treatment by a professional who specializes in helping Hemlocks, several pre-qualified professional service providers are listed at Save Georgia's Hemlocks. They have agreed to "good neighbor"

obtained. **Reeves Farm & Garden Store located at 149 Mills St. (just off S. Main St.) in Clayton has Prokoz Zenith 75 WSP** which is the "Imidacloprid 75% concentration in 1.6 oz. water soluble packets formulated to treat HWA's". The Zenith product is sold as a package containing four 1.6 oz. packets. The current package price is \$39.99. As well, Reeves has also agreed to "special order" the Safari product recommended for application of heavily infested Hemlocks and large Hemlocks with a 22" diameter and greater. To special order, contact Russell Garner at Reeves on Mon-

Light Infestation	Moderate Infestation	Heavy Infestation	Final Decline
			
			
Few egg sacs, limited coverage, dense foliage, bright green new growth	More egg sacs covering half the tree, fairly dense foliage, little new growth	Many egg sacs covering tree, thin grayish green foliage, no new growth	Fewer egg sacs, serious defoliation, gray color, branch die-back

which can occur within 3 to 6 years of initial infestation.

The first step when you return to the lake is to assess the health of all your Hemlocks. **Do you see any of the following?**

- White woolly egg sacs on the underside of branches?
- Gray-green foliage color?
- Premature needle drop and thinning of foliage?
- Lack of new green growth and general loss of vigor?

rates so tell them you were referred by the Save Georgia's Hemlocks web site to qualify.

For those preferring the "do-it-yourself" approach, your LRA has purchased a soil injector which is available to be borrowed. Look on the LRA website for information and how to reserve the injector.

As well, we now have a **local Rabun County retail source** where the Imidacloprid chemical used to treat mild to moderate infestation can be

day or Tuesday and your chemical can be available for pick-up on Thursday. Please let them know that we (LRA) appreciate their support in obtaining these products.

While you're assessing your Hemlocks, also look at your adjoining neighbors' Hemlocks as well and talk to them in case they are not aware of the infestation.

Bob Pledger