Date Filed: October 09, 2026

Witness: John P. DiPaola-Tromba, Sean D. Redding and Jenna Turner
Request from: Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

Question:

(VEGETATION MANAGEMENT) Exhibit CLP-VMP-1, p. 48. Provide additional information on occurrences, frequency, and other information on infestations and diseases affecting vegetation since at least 2018.

Response:

Referring to Exhibit CMP-VMP-1, on page 48, the Company explains that it has worked with the Connecticut Agriculture Experimental Station ("CAES") to receive updated information on the locations and spread of disease and insect infestations, specifically in reference, but not limited to, the Emerald Ash Borer, Spongy Moth, Spotted Lantern Fly, and Beech Leaf Disease. The long-term residual effect of the above factors are more trees that are standing dead or in declining health along the roadside forest and within reach of the Company's electric distribution system.

Please refer to the CAES website repository for all press releases regarding reported disease and insect infestations in Connecticut from 1997 through 2026.

CAES Press Releases

Please see a list of press releases concerning Emerald Ash Borer, Spongy Moth, Spotted Lantern Fly, and Beech Leaf Disease below. Included parenthetically are the description, distribution map, and activity associated with each pest and disease.

Emerald Ash Borer (Agrilus planipennis)

July 20, 2012-- Emerald Ash Borer Found in Prospect and Naugatuck, Connecticut
February 26, 2013-- Emerald Ash Borer Found in Three Additional New Haven County...
May 20, 2013--Emerald Ash Borer Found in Hamden, Connecticut
May 29, 2013-- Parasitoid Wasp Released in Connecticut for Biocontrol of the Emerald Ash Borer
July 28, 2013-- Emerald Ash Borer Found in Fairfield County: Sherman
August 9, 2013-- Emerald Ash Borer Found in Two New Counties in Connecticut, Hartford...
July 16, 2014-- Emerald Ash Borer Distribution Expanding in Connecticut
November 12, 2014-- Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station to Hold Public Hearing...

Spongy Moth (Lymantria dispar)

June 23, 2015--Gypsy Moth 2015 Outbreak
June 13, 2016--Gypsy Moth 2016 Outbreak May be Over Natural Fungus Causing Widespread...
March 23, 2017--CAES and DEEP Anticipate Another Spring of Heavy Gypsy Moth Defoliation...
Tuesday, June 29, 2021--Gypsy Moth 2021 Outbreak in Northwest Connecticut Causes...
Monday, May 16, 2022--CAES and DEEP Anticipate Heavy Spongy Moth Defoliation...

Spotted Lantern Fly (Lycorma delicatula)

Monday, October 22, 2018--CAES Announces the Finding of Spotted Lanternfly in Farmington...
Tuesday, October 15, 2019--Spotted Lanternfly CT
Monday, September 21, 2020--CAES Announces the Finding of Spotted Lanternfly in West...
Thursday, October 15, 2020--CAES Announces the Finding of a Spotted Lanternfly Population...
Monday, July 19, 2021--CAES Announces the Finding of a Spotted Lanternfly in Norwalk...
Thursday, July 29, 2021--CAES Announces The Finding of Spotted Lanternfly in Fairfield...
Monday, January 3, 2022--CAES Announces Renewal of the Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine...
Monday, January 9, 2023--CAES Announces Renewal of the Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine...
Wednesday, January 3, 2024--CAES Announces Renewal of the Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine...
Tuesday, December 18, 2024--CAES Announces Renewal of the Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine...
Monday, December 9, 2024--CAES Scientists Develop a New Method to Identify Odorants...
Wednesday, January 9, 2026--CAES Announces Renewal of the Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine...

Beech Leaf Disease (Beech Leaf Disease)

Thursday, October 17, 2019--Beech Leaf Disease
Wednesday, June 3, 2020--CAES Announces First Report of Beech Leaf Disease in Hamden...
Thursday, June 10, 2021--Beech Leaf Disease Now Widespread in Connecticut
Monday, June 6, 2022--Connecticut's Beech Trees Severely Impacted by Beech Leaf Disease...
Friday, September 1, 2023--CAES Scientists Release Updated Bulletin on Management...