

PUBLIC NOTICE

AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Notice of Availability of Grant Funds

2024 - 2026 Spotted Lanternfly Programs — Population Reduction/Chemical Control Treatment Opportunity Grant

Take notice that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4 et seq., the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (“Department” or “NJDA”) hereby publishes notice of grants, subject to the availability of funds, in the following program:

a. Name of Grant Program: Spotted Lanternfly Population Reduction/Chemical Control Treatment Program (Program).

b. Purpose: In 2021, the New Jersey Legislature began providing funding to the Department to reduce the spread and population of Spotted Lanternfly in the State of New Jersey. Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive exotic insect that is both a nuisance, as well as an agricultural economic pest. Department staff is doing its best to reduce populations throughout the State, but in doing so it is seeking additional assistance and support from other stakeholders to make a difference in population reduction.

Homeowners will be impacted by the Spotted Lanternfly as a pest in their landscapes by the feeding activities of both the nymph and adults that produce extensive sooty mold damage to outside structures, landscapes, and property. New Jersey grape growers may see significant economic damage due to the insects feeding on the grape vines contributing to crop loss and/or vine mortality.

Additionally, green industries and other businesses may be impacted by outside restrictions imposed on the interstate or international movement of goods.

c. Potential Funding: The Department has approximately \$3.7 million available for this grant program. All monies dedicated to this Program must be encumbered by November 30, 2024, and fully expended by November 30, 2026. Any unencumbered remaining funds in the account after December 2024 will not be available for use from the 2025 season onward.

As there are remaining unencumbered grant funds currently available from the 2023 season, grant funding will be available to all counties and municipalities regardless of any prior year reimbursement. A total of up to \$50,000 per county, and up to \$20,000 per municipality, subject to the availability of funds to be encumbered on a first-come, first-served basis, will be provided to county and municipal governments in the State who are interested in performing chemical treatment and/or population reduction activities against this invasive foreign insect for the 2024, 2025, and 2026 treatment seasons.

d. Organizations that may Apply for Funding from NJDA: All county and municipal governments in New Jersey may apply for funding to provide chemical treatments and/or population reduction activities against this insect on their private and public lands.

It is the intent that the NJDA will reimburse all actual costs incurred by the county or municipality in providing the treatment services, without profit, including the costs for spray equipment, traps or vacuums, and supplies; materials; and labor, as expended and submitted by the governmental participants. Only costs incurred for treatment or population reduction services provided during the 2024 through 2026 seasons are eligible for reimbursement. Additional reporting requirements to authorize distribution of funds pursuant to the grant program include:

- Counties/municipalities shall follow appropriate fiscal procurement procedures when purchasing approved treatment materials, equipment, and services, as applicable.
- Counties/municipalities whose applications have been approved, shall submit invoices for the

allowed treatments and/or population reduction expenditures. Grant funds will only be paid after invoices are submitted to the NJDA, and all invoices must be submitted to the NJDA for payment on or before November 30, 2026, in order to receive payment.

- Counties and municipalities shall provide the names of the agencies who will be performing the treatments or their contracted vendors to the NJDA to assure compliance with the New Jersey Neonicotinoid Law, N.J.S.A. 13:1F-4.4.
- Counties/municipalities shall have their designated pesticide applicators complete a training session provided by the NJDA.
- Counties/municipalities shall provide pesticide public application notifications compliant with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection pesticide rules appropriate with the areas scheduled for treatments.
- Counties/municipalities shall provide to the NJDA, on an annual basis, the block and lot information, as well as number and types of trees, where treatments have been conducted.
- If a county/municipality is utilizing an independent contractor for treatment services, the governmental agency will provide the NJDA with the contact information of its independent contractor.

e. Qualifications Required by an Applicant to be Considered for the Grant Program: Interested county and municipal governments must submit a completed application, agree to the terms and conditions of the grant program, and receive approval from the Department.

f. Procedure for Organizations to Apply: Applications will be posted on the Department's website for the county/municipal governments to complete and submit. Applications for the funding are to be submitted in either a hard copy or electronic submission to NJDA at the mail and electronic mail addresses shown below. An application must be submitted and approved in order for a

county/municipality to be eligible to receive grant funds.

g. Address for Submitting Grant Applications:

Address at NJDA for Receipt of Hard-Copy Applications:

By U.S. mail:

Joseph W. Zoltowski, Director
Division of Plant Industry
New Jersey Department of Agriculture
PO Box 330
Trenton, NJ 08625

By overnight carrier:

Joseph W, Zoltowski, Director
Division of Plant Industry
New Jersey Department of Agriculture
PHEAL, 3 Schwarzkopf Drive
West Trenton, New Jersey 08628

Email address for receipt of applications in electronic form: joseph.zoltowski@ag.nj.gov; Phone: (609) 406-6939.

h. Deadline by which Applications must be Received: Applications should be submitted as soon as an applicant is able to do so because applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis until all available funds are encumbered. Furthermore, no applications received after November 30, 2024, will be considered.

i. Date by which Notices of Decision shall be Mailed: The Department expects to email notices of

decision regarding awards of funding within two weeks of receipt of the application.