



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Agriculture

635 Capitol St NE
Salem, OR 97301-2532



Japanese beetle eradication update – June 2017

Multiagency Community Project

Approximately 9 months have passed since we convened a diverse group of communication- and public health–related stakeholders to formulate a draft communication plan for Japanese beetle eradication in Cedar Mill. Since that time the project has enlisted the help of an estimated 70 individuals representing 34 organizations and the community of Cedar Mill. This collaboration has resulted in the following accomplishments: actualization of a multifaceted community engagement process, implementation of eradication treatments, implementation of containment protocols, deployment of surveillance traps, development and actualization of quarantine policy, implementation of various contracting activities, changes in waste-related fees and taxes, issuance of permits and licenses related to green waste containment, implementation of organized formal communication within national plant- and entomological-related organizations, initiation of biological control research, and the acquisition of multiple organizational funding.

Unbeknownst to the Japanese beetles in Cedar Mill, these accomplishments were achieved within its biological development time and would not have been possible without the diverse group of stakeholders and the wide support from the Cedar Mill community. This project represents a grassroots dedication to preserving ecological and community health from this destructive invasive species.

Green Waste and Yard Debris Containment

The green waste team has been very active over the last 6 weeks; these activities have resulted in curbside yard debris being diverted to the Hillsboro landfill. We are still awaiting the sub-contract for the landscaper drop-off site to enable landscapers and residents to dispose of green waste originating from within the quarantine area. A multi-organizational communication campaign will begin next week to inform residents and landscapers about these changes.



Treatment

The primary larvicide treatment has concluded. In all, 99.9% of the landowners have cooperated with the eradication project. Here is quick summary: 2,388 properties are in the treatment area, ODA treated 2,121 properties, 264 properties did not need treatments due to absence of lawns or due to medical concerns the property owner will allow the lawn to go dormant during the summer months, 3 properties filed a medical affidavit requesting the entomological bacteria treatment. In total 41 properties initially did not grant ODA consent to treat. With further communication, some of these "non consent properties" were converted to "yes". We served 168 administrative warrants in two batches. In the end, only two refused warrants and treatments.

Our next treatment-related activity will be to use the entomopathogenic bacterial treatment in the forested area near the epicenter of the infestation. Also, three residents have filed medical affidavits to request this product in lieu of the Acelepryn larvicide. We selected the Acelepryn larvicide over the biological control agent, "grubGone", because of the lack of scientific results indicating a high efficacy of the product and because the product is not available for a treatment area as large as the Cedar Mill and Bethany neighborhoods.

Debrief

Last week the Samara Group facilitated a debrief event at the Food and Innovation Center in Portland. A diverse group of participants attended, and I feel we were able to gather useful information to inform this project moving forward. We will be working together to integrate this information into the project over the next few months.

Trapping

Deployment of surveillance and photo traps has concluded within the delimitation zones. Detection grids are still being placed statewide. If you are interested in monitoring the online photo traps, please email me, and I will provide you the access information. The photo traps are produced by PluraSense and will enable us to monitor peak flight and gather crucial phenological information about this population. This technology will also allow us to gather live specimens for a variety of molecular- and pathogenic-related studies. Lastly, we will see an abundance of Japanese beetles in the quarantine area this summer; the eradication treatment will affect the newly emerged larva that will be present in the lawns this summer. If residents report Japanese beetles within the treatment area then we advise to dispose of them in a container of soapy water. If beetles are observed and reported outside the treatment area please advise them to email photos (Japanesebeetle@oda.state.or.us) or call 1-800-525-0137