

From the Lancaster County Conservation District's Spring 2022 Newsletter, The Conservation Crier

We are well into winter and spotted lanternflies are in their dormant stage: eggs. Egg masses which contain 30-50 eggs are found on the underside of tree branches, fences, outdoor equipment, and many other locations. By this time, they are a faded gray/brown color and are often cracked. If you see one, scrape it and dispose of the eggs safely in the trash or with an alcoholic solution. Nymphs will be hatching in late April/May so relish the SLF-free time while it lasts?

While egg masses are dormant, now is the time to take down your spotted lanternfly trap. Sticky tape actually loses effectiveness after a few weeks to a month, so you will want to change that out regularly. Circle traps, homemade or store bought, will likely fall down with the snow and other harsh winter weather. Since these traps are reusable, we want to make the most of them for every spotted lanternfly season. Finally, we don't want to capture any unintended wildlife by keeping these traps up. There are no spotted lanternflies out, so we are only capturing other creatures with sticky tape or circle traps. For help on managing SLF, LCCD has trap maintenance and other videos (www.linktr.ee/TreeTraps) as well as Penn State Extension (www.extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly-management-resources), a great resource hub.

Keep on squishing Lancaster County!

