Many native and exotic insect and disease pests already affect Michigan trees and forests. Other serious pests are not yet here but are certainly on the horizon.

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) is a serious insect pest currently decimating the hemlock tree resource on the east coast of the United States. Over the past decade HWA has been accidently introduced into several locations in Michigan. The Michigan Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) and Natural Resources (DNR) have so far been successful in the eradication of HWA from those areas. The key to successful eradication is the early detection of, and early response to, those infestations.

On October 7, 2014, staff from MDARD’s Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division and the DNR’S Forest Health Division will be on Beaver Island to conduct a HWA Volunteer Survey Training session.

Attendees of the session will learn about HWA, HWA survey protocols and survey data collection & reporting. In addition, information on four other top forest health problems of concern in Michigan will be offered.

- Beech Bark Disease
- Oak Wilt
- Emerald Ash Borer
- Asian Longhorned Beetle

Also, during the session the MDARD and DNR staff present will relate to attendees more about the work they do for the State and the type of education and experience required to follow their chosen career paths.