

# Check Your Pool for Asian Longhorned Beetles

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**DURHAM, N.H.** – UNH Cooperative Extension is asking New Hampshire residents with swimming pools to check their filters regularly for Asian longhorned beetle (ALB). This invasive insect poses a serious threat to New Hampshire's forests and trees.

While ALB isn't in New Hampshire yet, Karen Bennett, Extension forestry specialist, said, "We need many people looking for it so we can take steps to limit its spread, if it arrives."

ALB was found in trees in Worcester, Mass. in 2008, but experts estimate it inhabited the trees for about 10 years before they identified the problem. Some Worcester homeowners subsequently reported that they had been collecting ALB in their swimming pools for years prior to the 2008 identification.

Kyle Lombard, N.H. Division of Forests and Lands forest health specialist, said, "Asian longhorned beetles are emerging from trees and those residents with giant insect collectors, also known as 'swimming pools,' could help us greatly by paying attention to the debris collected in the filters. If any insect looks similar to a longhorned beetle, they should upload a picture of it."

To help with this effort, you will need:

- A digital camera,
- An email address that you actively use, and
- Enough computer skills to follow instructions to upload pictures to <http://extension.unh.edu/fwt/nhbugs/form.cfm>.

Help us by looking at the debris from your swimming pools.

Here are the steps you can take:

**Step 1: Through the end of August.** Whenever you clean your pool, look at the debris you collect in your filter and skimmers. Look for longhorned beetles.

**Step 2:** Use a fact sheet to compare collected insects to common insects. Use this fact sheet at: [http://extension.unh.edu/resources/files/Resource003212\\_Rep4652.pdf](http://extension.unh.edu/resources/files/Resource003212_Rep4652.pdf).

**Step 3:** Take a picture of any insect you think is a longhorned beetle. A good view of the insect's back is needed to properly identify it.

**Step 4:** Upload pictures of the insect that looks the most like a longhorned beetle. Use the form at <http://extension.unh.edu/fwt/nhbugs/form.cfm>.

**Step 5:** If you send us a picture, freeze the insect in a tupperware-like container until you hear from us (in about a week). We will either tell you to throw the insect out or give you instructions about mailing it, delivering it, or arranging for pick-up.

We will post interesting pictures and sightings at <http://extension.unh.edu/fwt/nhbugs/gallery.cfm>.

Find more [information](#) about Asian longhorned beetle and other invasive insects.

**Asian longhorned beetle resources:**

[Invasive Insect Reporting Form](#)

[Firewood quarantine](#)

[Asian Longhorned Beetle Look-alikes](#)

[Landscape Trees and Their Susceptibility to Invasive Insects](#)

[Sign-up to receive bug updates](#)