

# **It's *Check-Your-Trees* Month!**

**Maine's trees are crucial to our health and our economy. They produce the oxygen we breathe. They filter water and hold the soil in place. They provide a renewable winter heat source and their shade cools our town by 15 degrees on the hottest summer days. Trees provide homes for us and also habitat for millions of other species.**

**Our trees protect us.**

**This month, the USDA are asking us to return the favor! August is prime time for spotting the four most dangerous invasive pests that threaten Maine's iconic forests: Asian Longhorned Beetle, Emerald Ash Borer, Oak Wilt Disease, and Spotted Lanternfly.**

**The *Maine Forest Service* hopes "the citizens of Maine will take five minutes to step outside and check the trees on their property...The public [is] our most important partner in detecting invasive species."**

**Learn how to detect invasive pests in your trees:**

**[maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest\\_health/  
invasive\\_threats/index.htm](http://maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/invasive_threats/index.htm)**