# Mission

To suppress forest pest infestation and pests of public health concern throughout the County through surveillance, pest and insect control, as well as public information and education, so that none of the County tree cover is defoliated and human morbidity and mortality are minimized while protecting the environment.

# Connection to the Countywide Strategic Plan

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopted the first-ever Countywide Strategic Plan on October 5, 2021. The Countywide Strategic Plan serves as a road map to help guide future work, focusing on the 10 Community Outcome Areas that represent the issues of greatest importance to the community, and uses the County's One Fairfax equity policy to invest in people and places that have limited access to opportunity. On February 18, 2025, the third Annual Report on the work of the strategic plan was released to the public. The report contains point-in-time progress highlights for each of the community outcome areas, plus a number of additional initiatives to embed the elements of the plan within department-level work. The report also includes a Year Three Implementation Model, including five data dashboards and data stories that are being replicated across all of the outcome areas, which will engage hundreds of County subject-matter experts to identify and champion the specific strategies that will move forward to implementation under the direction of the County Executive's Steering Committee. For more information on the Countywide Strategic Plan, please visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/strategicplan. Fund 40080, Integrated Pest Management Program, primarily supports the following Community Outcome Areas:

Countywide Strategic Plan Community Outcome Areas					
133					
	ĈÔ				
	3				

Community Outcome Area	Vision Statement					
Environment and Energy	All people live in a healthy sustainable					
	environment.					
Healthy Communities	All people can attain their highest level of health					
	and well-being.					

# Focus

Fund 40080, Integrated Pest Management Program, includes two separate programs – the Forest Health Program (FHP) managed by Stormwater Services and the Disease-Carrying Insects Program (DCIP) managed by the Health Department. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an ecological approach to pest control that combines appropriate pest control strategies into a unified, site-specific plan. The goal of an IPM program is to reduce pest numbers to acceptable levels in ways that are practical, cost-effective, and safe for people and the environment. FPP focuses on preventing the spread of forest insects and diseases approved by the state to be controlled in the County. DCIP focuses on protecting residents from public health pests and maintaining a low incidence of the West Nile virus, Lyme disease, and other tick-borne and mosquito-borne diseases as the prevention of epidemics and spread of disease is one of the core functions of the Health Department.

A countywide tax levy financially supports Fund 40080 activities, and this levy is subject to change annually due to funding requirements based on the level of infestation. Since FY 2001, the Board of Supervisors approved tax rate has been \$0.001 per \$100 assessed value and has provided support for both the Forest Health and the Disease-Carrying Insects Programs. In FY 2026, the same tax rate, along with the existing fund balance, continues to support both programs.

# **Forest Health Program**

The Forest Health Program is a cooperative program with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS). VDACS maintains a list of insects and diseases that are eligible for control by this program; however, the FPP is tasked with monitoring and providing control of these insects and diseases. Currently VDACS has approved six insects and three diseases for inclusion on the list of insects and diseases that can be controlled. They are the spongy moth, cankerworm, emerald ash borer, hemlock woolly adelgid, Asian long-horned beetle, spotted lanternfly, sudden oak death, and thousand cankers disease of black walnut, and beech leaf disease. The proposed treatment plan and resource requirements for all listed pests are submitted annually to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

Research has shown that by slowing the spread of an invasive insect, overall control costs can be reduced. Agricultural quarantines are an effective method implemented to eradicate or slow the spread to other areas. The quarantines currently in effect in the County are intended to slow the spread of the target insects and not intended to eradicate them. In the United States, eradication is only attempted when an invasive species is discovered early, and its populations are small enough to be contained and eliminated. Forest pest quarantines are not an unusual or a historically recent method of controlling the spread of pests.

Throughout the year, staff conducts an extensive outreach program with the goal of educating Fairfax County communities about pest suppression methods and measures they may take to alleviate potential forest pest population infestations. Funding has also been allocated for the removal and/or remediation of hazardous trees. This activity will be limited to instances where the hazard is a direct result of pests included in the list of insects and diseases eligible for control by the program. Additionally, funding has been allocated for the removal and remediation of tree of heaven. Tree of heaven is a preferred host tree for spotted lanternfly and its removal is thought to be an effective management strategy for minimizing the impact of this pest. More information on the Forest Health program can be found on this webpage: <a href="https://arcg.is/1GXePr3">https://arcg.is/1GXePr3</a>.

#### **Spongy Moth**

In FY 2024, spongy moth, formerly known as gypsy moth, (*Lymantria dispar*) larvae populations remained very low. There was no measurable defoliation reported in Fairfax County. Active control programs in conjunction with the naturally occurring fungal pathogen *Entomophaga maimaiga* may explain the extremely low spongy moth populations in Fairfax County and other areas. Staff continue to monitor spongy moth, but no control treatments have been applied in recent years. Spongy moth populations are cyclical, and it is not uncommon for outbreaks to reoccur.

The spongy moth was first quarantined by state and federal governments in 1912 and continues to be quarantined today. More information about spongy month can be found on this webpage: <a href="https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/spongy-moth">https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/spongy-moth</a>.

#### Fall Cankerworm

Fall cankerworm (*Alsophila pometaria*) is an insect native to the eastern United States that feeds on a broad variety of hardwood trees. Periodic outbreaks of this pest are common, especially in older declining forest stands. The Mount Vernon, Mason, and Franconia magisterial districts have most recently experienced the most severe infestations and associated defoliation. Staff observed population outbreak levels in the winters of 2012 and 2013 and declining populations since 2014. No treatment was required in calendar year 2023 or calendar year 2024.

FPP conducted an extensive defoliation survey to measure the damage caused by fall cankerworm in May 2023. The purpose of this survey was to determine those areas of Fairfax County where fall cankerworm larvae have impacted the County's urban forest resources through foliar feeding and to quantify this feeding damage as a percentage of canopy defoliated. The data acquired from this survey contributed to knowledge of overall cankerworm population dynamics in Fairfax County as well as locating areas of concern to be targeted in the ensuing year's fall cankerworm banding survey. The defoliation surveys for fall cankerworm were done in grids in the known areas of fall cankerworm activity in the southeastern portion of the County. Defoliation was quantified using a visual survey at each grid point. The results of this survey indicated that there was no significant defoliation from fall cankerworm in calendar year 2024.

The FY 2025 budget provided capacity to treat 500 acres of ground treatment and up to 5,000 acres of aerial treatment, if insect surveys conducted between November 2024 and January 2025 indicate the need. More information about fall cankerworm can be found on this webpage: <a href="https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/fall-cankerworm">https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/fall-cankerworm</a>.



#### **Emerald Ash Borer**

The emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis*, is an exotic beetle introduced from Asia that was first discovered in the State of Michigan in the early 2000s. This beetle attacks ash trees (*Fraxinus sp.*) and can cause mortality in native ash species in as little as two years.

Trapping efforts revealed that beetle populations extend to all areas of Fairfax County. Staff is responsible for educating the public on how to manage the impending mortality and replacement of thousands of ash trees. Education efforts emphasize hiring a private contractor to remove dead and dying trees and options for effective pesticides that may conserve ash trees in the landscape.

More information about EAB can be found on this webpage: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/emerald-ash-borer.

In March 2015, the Board of Supervisors authorized staff to begin a control program for EAB on trees on publicly owned land, including fire stations, parks, schools, and libraries. Since 2015, staff have treated approximately 200 ash trees for EAB. Yearly assessments are made on treated trees to evaluate their health and crown conditions based on parameters set in the EAB Management Plan.

Since 2016, FPP has made efforts to request and release emerald ash borer parasitoid wasps from the USDA: *Oobius agrili, Spathius agrili, and Tetrasticus planipennisi*. As part of the release process, an inventory was conducted of ash stands within the County. Several potential sites were identified, and the FPP has released emerald ash borer parasitoid wasps on several County properties. In accordance with the EAB parasitoid release agreement, staff will continue to monitor and report on the establishment of these wasps as part of a national network at <a href="https://www.mapbiocontrol.org">www.mapbiocontrol.org</a>. FPP

planted ash seedlings in release sites in an effort to reestablish the County ash population in calendar year 2021. Staff will continue to identify additional areas that qualify for parasitoid release. The wasps were produced and supplied from the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) at the Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) EAB Parasitoid Rearing Facility in Brighton, Michigan. For more information on the parasitoids, please call 866-322-4512.

#### **Thousand Cankers Disease**

Thousand cankers disease (TCD) is caused by a fungal pathogen resulting from an association of a fungus (*Geosmithia morbida*) and the walnut twig beetle (WTB) (*Pityophthorus juglandis*) native to the southwestern United States. In August 2010, the disease was detected in black walnut trees in Tennessee. The following year, TCD was reported in central Virginia, then Fairfax and Prince William counties in 2012. This disease complex causes only minor damage to western walnut species; however, Eastern black walnut trees (*Julgans nigra*) are more susceptible and infested trees die after many years. Following disease discovery, VDACS listed Fairfax County under state quarantine that prohibited the transportation of walnut wood and its products. More information about the statewide quarantine related to TCD can be found on this webpage:

https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title2/agency5/chapter318/. There is no existing federal regulation regarding TCD.

To monitor the insect's presence more closely, staff deployed WTB traps in confirmed locations for calendar year 2024. WTB was positively identified from the traps that were deployed. Staff continue to monitor walnut tree health and follow the disease status elsewhere in Virginia. More information about TCD can be found on this webpage:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/thousand-cankers-disease.

# Sudden Oak Death

Sudden oak death (SOD) is caused by a fungus (*Phytophthora ramorum*) that has resulted in wide-scale tree mortality in the western United States since 1995. Fortunately, this disease has been found only in isolated locations in the eastern United States and officials feel that these detections have been contained. Diligent monitoring is critical in slowing the spread of this disease and testing methods have been developed. Consequently, staff have implemented these monitoring methods in areas of the County where nursery stock that could have been shipped from areas known to have the pathogen is being sold. Staff continue to educate private and public groups on this disease and its control. More information on SOD can be found on this webpage:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/sudden-oak-death.

#### Asian Longhorned Beetle

The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) (*Anoplophora glabripennis*) is an invasive, wood-boring beetle that, like EAB, has the potential to have drastic economic and social impacts should it be introduced in Fairfax County. The larvae will kill trees by boring into the heartwood and disrupting the tree's nutrient flow. Imported into the United States via wood packing material used in shipping, infestations of ALB in or near Chicago, New York, Boston, and Ohio have been discovered since the mid-1990's. In June 2020, an infestation was found in Hollywood, South Carolina. These pests will infest many hardwood tree species but prefer maple species, one of the predominant trees in Fairfax County's urban forest ecosystem. According to the United States Forest Service, most of the infestations found in the United States have been identified by tree care professionals and informed homeowners. More information on ALB can be found on this webpage:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/asian-longhorned-beetle.

# **Hemlock Woolly Adelgid**

Hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) (*Adelges tsugae*) is a sap-feeding insect that infests and eventually kills eastern hemlock trees. Staff employ various control options for this pest, including injected pesticide treatments, spray applications, and releasing predatory insects that feed on HWA. Native eastern hemlock is relatively rare in Fairfax County. Staff will continue to inventory the natural stands of eastern hemlock. Staff continue to manage trees in two native stands in the Dranesville and Springfield magisterial districts. Staff monitored the condition of treated hemlocks in calendar year 2024. Staff are continuing to research management options for hemlocks and HWA, including eDNA sampling to monitor HWA populations. More information on HWA can be found on this webpage: <a href="https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/hemlock-wooly-adelgid">https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/hemlock-wooly-adelgid</a>.

### **Spotted Lanternfly**

Spotted lanternfly (SLF) (*Lycorma delicatula*) is an insect native to Asia and was found in suburban Philadelphia in 2014. In January 2018, this insect was found in Frederick County, Virginia, and since then it has been found in many other localities in Virginia. SLF was found in Fairfax County through in-house monitoring efforts in 2022. Since its initial discovery, staff have observed an increase in the population and spread to new areas of the County.

VDACS has established a quarantine for Warren County, Clarke County, and Frederick County, Virginia, as well as the City of Winchester, Virginia. Under the quarantine, the movement of articles capable of transporting spotted lanternfly is restricted. Unfortunately, SLF has been found around the Mid-Atlantic including Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware. All states with known SLF infestations have their own quarantine in hopes to limit the spread of this pest.

This insect feeds on a broad range of host trees and has a strong preference for tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*). Tree of heaven is an invasive tree species native to Asia. This insect has not yet established itself in Fairfax County but when it does, it has the potential to be a significant nuisance. Staff monitored this insect and inventoried tree of heaven in high-risk introduction areas in calendar year 2024. The removal of tree of heaven could minimize the negative impact of this pest once it arrives. The FPP is conducting a pilot program to remove tree of heaven on County properties.

Staff anticipates the need for significant public education and community engagement will be in high demand once spotted lanternfly is established in the County. Given the broad host range for this pest, staff in the Urban and Community Forestry Division (UCFD) anticipates most residents in the County will be impacted. More information on SLF can be found on this webpage: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/spotted-lanternfly.

#### **Beach Leaf Disease**

Beech leaf disease (BLD) is a relatively recent foliar disease of American beech trees. Since 2012 this disease has spread from Ohio to Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Maine, West Virginia, and the Canadian Province of Ontario. In 2021, it was confirmed in Prince William County and was found in Fairfax County in the summer of 2022. Diagnostic efforts have revealed an association with a foliar-feeding nematode (Litylenchus crenatae) that appears to be spread by birds, wind, rain, and insects. Fungal and bacterial pathogens may also be involved. Symptoms of this disease are seen in the leaves as dark striping, curling, and/or leathery texture. The disease eventually kills the leaf buds and subsequently the tree.

Staff are monitoring BLD in the County using visual surveys as well as environmental DNA testing. Staff also participate in a USDA Forest Service beech health study that includes both BLD and beech bark disease (BBD) assessment. Data on the incidence of BLD signs and symptoms as well as any

signs of BBD are being collected for that study. Outreach efforts are planned to inform decision makers and the public about BLD and the impact it will have on the approximate 4.3 million beech trees throughout the County. More information on BLD can be found on this webpage: <a href="https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/beech-leaf-disease">https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/beech-leaf-disease</a>.

### **Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey**

The cooperative agricultural pest survey (CAPS) is a U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service program. The mission of this program is to utilize a network of cooperators and stakeholders to detect non-native, exotic pests of concern. Using various traps and visual surveys, the Urban and Community Forestry Division monitors pests of concern to the forest resources of the County in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The pests of concern that are monitored in the County are generally not known to be present in the Eastern United States; however, their potential impacts to agriculture and natural resources warrants monitoring efforts to find them quickly should they arrive here. Specific pests monitored in Fairfax County are oak ambrosia beetle, sudden oak death, and thousand cankers disease.

#### Outreach

The FPP conducts and participates in multiple outreach and education efforts. Staff foster an appreciation for trees and the urban forest to inspire residents, County agencies, and the development industry to protect, plant, and manage greenscape resources. Targeted audiences for education and training include Fairfax County Public Schools, County staff, resident scientists, homeowners' associations, and natural resource professionals. Through public events such as the Fairfax County Arbor Day Celebration, Environment Expo, and town hall meetings, staff educate the public about the County's urban forest resources and programs. Staff develop hands-on activities and displays that help convey the importance of the stewardship of the County's natural resources. In addition, staff reach out to students through various school programs which encourage them to advocate for protection and support of the County's urban forest. More information about education programs can be found on this webpage:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/education-programs.

The FPP continues to improve messaging and communication with County residents by utilizing a variety of media to reach multiple audiences and demographics. Methods include printed materials such as brochures as well as podcasts, videos, social media, webinars, the County website, newspaper articles, and television, radio, and YouTube interviews. Much of the outreach can be found on this webpage:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/trees/news-videos-podcasts.

#### **Management Plans**

The nature of invasive insects and diseases is such that it is difficult to make long-term predictions on monitoring techniques and response plans. USDA has drafted a management plan for ALB; it outlines a role for localities consistent with what staff had envisioned. For example, County staff can play a critical role in public meetings, notification, and mapping. VDACS and the FPP have drafted basic management plans for ALB, EAB, SLF, and HWA. The management plans will act in concert with plans in place by USDA and VDACS. The Forest Health Management Program, which is subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors, provides a summary of program activities. The 2024 Forest Health Annual Report is scheduled to be approved by the Board of Supervisors on March 18, 2025. Last years' report can be viewed as part of the March 5, 2024 Final Board Package and can be found on this webpage:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/sites/boardofsupervisors/files/Assets/meeting-materials/2024/March5-Board-Package-Final.pdf.

# **Disease-Carrying Insects Program**

Mosquitoes, ticks, and other vectors are responsible for transmitting pathogens that can result in life-changing illnesses such as West Nile Virus (WNV), Zika, and Lyme disease. The Health Department's Disease-Carrying Insects Program was established in 2003 and works to protect County residents and visitors from vector-borne diseases. The DCIP uses an integrated approach to monitor and manage vectors. The program continuously promotes personal protection and vector prevention methods in the community to raise awareness of these public health pests, the diseases they transmit, and what residents can do to protect themselves and their families. Information about the program can be found online at:

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/fightthebite

#### West Nile Virus and Other Mosquito-Transmitted Pathogens of Public Health Concern

WNV, which is transmitted from birds to humans through the bite of infected mosquitoes, continues to be a national public health concern, and is the most reported locally acquired mosquito-borne infection in Fairfax County. In addition to WNV, the Virginia Department of Health's reportable disease list includes other mosquito-borne illnesses: chikungunya, dengue, eastern equine encephalitis, Jamestown canyon, LaCrosse encephalitis, malaria, St. Louis encephalitis (SLE), and Zika.

The Health Department's Division of Epidemiology and Population Health investigates reported cases of these illnesses and notifies the DCIP. The DCIP conducts entomological investigations for these cases, as appropriate, providing education and information as well as controlling mosquitoes as

necessary to protect public health.

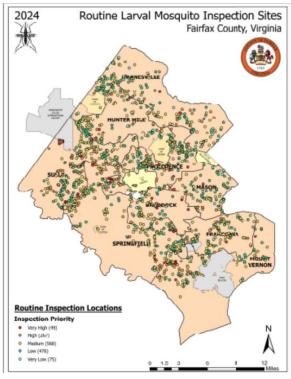


Figure 1. 2024 Routine larval mosquito inspection sites (dry ponds)

#### Mosquito Inspections, Surveillance, and Control Activities

The Health Department responds to complaints and requests for assistance about standing water and mosquitoes as a service to residents who have mosquito-related concerns. Residents are encouraged to call the Health Department, send an email to fightthebite@fairfaxcounty.gov or submit a mosquito complaint online.

Immature mosquito surveillance efforts help identify aquatic habitats that support the development of mosquitoes. Health Department staff routinely inspect approximately 1,400 publicly maintained "dry ponds" (Figure 1) and approximately 200 Virginia Department of Transportation maintained stormwater structures. Targeted treatments of those habitats can be highly effective at controlling mosquitoes before they reach the flying adult stage when they are more difficult to control.

Adult mosquito surveillance is a vital component of Integrated Mosquito Management (IMM) for monitoring mosquito abundance and viral activity. Adult mosquitoes are trapped weekly from May through October at 75 sites (Figure 2) within the Fairfax Health District, which includes the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. Trapping efforts collect a variety of mosquito species, some of which are important disease vectors:

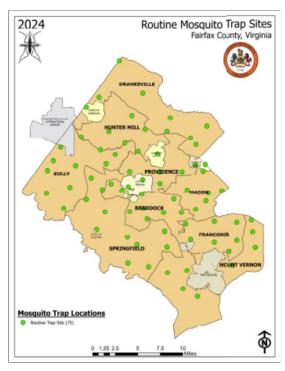


Figure 2. Routine mosquito trap sites

- Culex pipiens and Culex restuans: common mosquitoes that are the main vectors of WNV. Collected Culex mosquitoes are routinely tested by the Health Department laboratory for WNV and SLE in Fairfax County.
- Aedes albopictus: the most common nuisance mosquito in Fairfax County (also known as the tiger mosquito) that is a potential vector of chikungunya, dengue, yellow fever, and Zika.
- Aedes aegypti: an invasive tropical species that is the main vector of chikungunya, dengue, yellow fever, and Zika. This species is present in Washington, DC, but collections are infrequent in Fairfax County.

On its own, or in conjunction with human disease investigations, mosquito surveillance provides information that can trigger control efforts for immature and/or adult mosquitoes. Control efforts and activities may include public education, elimination of larval habitats, larvicide applications, and/or spraying to kill adult mosquitoes.

Action thresholds for targeted adult mosquito control efforts ("spraying") are flexible, as recommended by organizations such as the American Mosquito Control Association and the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). The following indicators may trigger adult mosquito spraying by the Health Department:

- Results of mosquito surveillance and testing,
- Environmental factors that impact mosquito or disease cycles,
- Detection of medically important invasive species, and
- Reported cases of human disease.

### Lyme Disease and Other Tick-Borne Diseases

Lyme disease is the most reported vector-borne illness in the United States, with an average of more than 30,000 cases reported annually. It is also the most reported vector-borne disease in Fairfax County each year. The bacterium that causes Lyme disease (*Borrelia burgdorferi*) is transmitted from small mammals to humans through the bite of an infected blacklegged tick (*Ixodes scapularis*). Other tick-borne diseases reported in the County include anaplasmosis, ehrlichiosis, and spotted fever rickettsiosis.

#### Tick Surveillance and Identification

The DCIP collects and identifies ticks each month from several veterinary clinics and the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Staff also work with local wildlife officials to attend deer management activities that occur in the County to remove and identify ticks. Through a collaboration with the Fairfax County Police Department's Wildlife Management Specialist and Animal Services Division, DCIP has received ticks collected through the County's deer management archery program. Tick surveillance may also be performed using other methods such as dragging, flagging, sweeping, and trapping. Several tick species are found in Fairfax County:

- *Ixodes scapularis:* Blacklegged ticks collected by routine or response surveillance are tested for the Lyme disease bacteria at the Health Department laboratory.
- Amblyomma americanum: Lone star ticks can transmit a pathogen that causes ehrlichiosis; associated with the alpha-gal (red meat) allergy.

- Dermacentor variabilis: American dog ticks can transmit a pathogen that causes spotted fever rickettsiosis.
- Haemaphysalis longicornis: The longhorned tick, an invasive species found in several states, transmits a variety of pathogens in other parts of the world; its medical significance in the western hemisphere is uncertain.

The data generated by tick surveillance and testing are used to inform the public about the seasonality of local tick species, the diseases they spread, and to reinforce messaging about the importance of preventing tick bites. The DCIP offers a free tick identification service where people can find out what type of tick bit them, information about tick-borne diseases and tick prevention methods. This service does not test ticks or provide medical advice. More information can be found at: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/fightthebite.

#### **Outreach and Education**

Outreach and education are essential to vector-borne disease prevention. The Health Department is committed to increasing community awareness of personal protection actions that help prevent mosquito and tick-borne diseases as well as steps that can be taken to reduce mosquitoes and ticks. Staff distribute educational materials, offer yard inspections, and advise residents about how to reduce their exposure to mosquitoes and ticks. DCIP staff provide educational presentations for County workers, neighborhood and homeowners associations, schools, and other interested groups, partnering with the Health Department's Community Health Development division to promote more equitable information-sharing of vector-borne disease prevention messages. Outreach and education resources can be found on the DCIP webpage: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/fightthebite.

# **Management Plans**

The DCIP Annual Report, which is subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors, provides a summary of program activities. The latest Disease Carrying Insects Program Annual Report is scheduled to be approved by the Board of Supervisors on March 18, 2025. Last year's report can be viewed as part of the March 5, 2024 Final Board Package and can be found on this webpage: <a href="https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/sites/boardofsupervisors/files/Assets/meeting-materials/2024/March5-Board-Package-Final.pdf">https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/sites/boardofsupervisors/files/Assets/meeting-materials/2024/March5-Board-Package-Final.pdf</a>.

The DCIP maintains relationships with professional and governmental organizations such as the American Mosquito Control Association and United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for guidance on mitigation of vector-borne diseases. Staff share information and network with regional counterparts throughout the year for situational awareness and to gather ideas for program improvements.

# Organizational Chart



# Budget and Staff Resources

Category	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Adopted	FY 2025 Revised	FY 2026 Advertised				
FUNDING								
Expenditures:								
Personnel Services	\$2,301,150	\$2,368,365	\$2,368,365	\$2,457,910				
Operating Expenses	572,912	1,255,557	1,382,996	1,255,557				
Capital Equipment	10,369	35,000	35,000	35,000				
Total Expenditures	\$2,884,431	\$3,658,922	\$3,786,361	\$3,748,467				
AUTHORIZED POSITIONS/FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)								
Regular	15 / 15	15 / 15	15 / 15	15 / 15				

# Summary by Program

Category	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Adopted	FY 2025 Revised	FY 2026 Advertised		
Forest Health Program						
EXPENDITURES						
Total Expenditures	\$1,515,778	\$1,652,357	\$1,761,325	\$1,789,280		
AUTHORIZED POSITIONS/FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)						
Regular	8/8	8/8	8/8	8/8		
Disease-Carrying Insects Program						
EXPENDITURES						
Total Expenditures	\$1,368,653	\$2,006,565	\$2,025,036	\$1,959,187		
AUTHORIZED POSITIONS/FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)						
Regular	7/7	7/7	7 / 7	7/7		

# FY 2026 Funding Adjustments

The following funding adjustments from the <u>FY 2025 Adopted Budget Plan</u> are necessary to support the FY 2026 program:

# **Employee Compensation**

\$76,509

An increase of \$76,509 in Personnel Services includes \$45,271 for a 2.00 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA) for all employees and \$31,238 for performance-based and longevity increases for non-uniformed merit employees, both effective the first full pay period in July 2025.

#### Other Post-Employment Benefits

\$13,036

An increase of \$13,036 in Personnel Services reflects required adjustments associated with providing Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEBs) to retirees, including the Retiree Health Benefits Subsidy. For more information on Other Post-Employment Benefits, please refer to Fund 73030, OPEB Trust, in Volume 2 of the FY 2026 Advertised Budget Plan.

# Changes to FY 2025 Adopted Budget Plan

The following funding adjustments reflect all approved changes in the FY 2025 Revised Budget Plan since passage of the FY 2025 Adopted Budget Plan. Included are all adjustments made as part of the FY 2024 Carryover Review and all other approved changes through December 31, 2024.

#### **Carryover Adjustments**

\$127,439

As part of the FY 2024 Carryover Review, the Board of Supervisors approved funding of \$127,439 for encumbered carryover for both the Forest Health Program and the Disease Carrying Insects Program.

# **Position Detail**

The <u>FY 2026 Advertised Budget Plan</u> includes the following positions:

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM - 15 Positions						
Forest I	Health Program					
1	Urban Forester IV	1	Urban Forester I			
2	Urban Foresters III	1	Administrative Assistant III			
3	Urban Foresters II					
Disease	-Carrying Insects Program					
1	Epidemiologist III	2	Environmental Health Specialists II			
1	Environmental Health Supervisor	1	Environmental Technician II			
2	Environmental Health Specialists III					

# Performance Measurement Results by Community Outcome Area

# **Environment and Energy**

### **Forest Health Program**

The FPP recently expanded the list of monitored and treated pests. The new performance measures are more inclusive of the work completed by staff. There was no aerial treatment for the spongy moth (formerly known as gypsy moth) in spring 2024. The number of forest pest surveys and related activities in FY 2024 is on par with the previous fiscal year. Monitoring and treatment projects have been adjusted to enhance early detection and rapid response for BLD. Staff conducted countywide monitoring to identify BLD-affected areas and delineate the extent of known infestations. Hemlock trees continue to be treated using a variety of strategies. Defoliation surveys for listed insects conducted in summer 2024 indicated no defoliation is expected in Fairfax County in FY 2025.

# **Healthy Communities**

# Disease-Carrying Insects Program

The FY 2024 program cost-per-capita was \$1.18, \$0.17 higher than in FY 2023, due to higher personnel and operating costs.

Inspection and treatment frequency of stormwater structures are impacted by multiple factors including staffing, environmental conditions and site prioritization based on historical inspections. FY 2024 inspection numbers were slightly lower than FY 2023 but were aligned with the FY 2024 estimate. Future estimates have been raised slightly to reflect an expected increase in larval mosquito inspections as a result of the expansion of routine operations. Inter- and intra-seasonal variability in staffing and environmental conditions will continue to be major drivers in actual inspections and treatments performed.

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Community Outcome Area	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Actual	Estimate	Estimate
Environment and Energy						
Promoting Air, Water and Land Quality						
Percent of County tree defoliation resulting from listed						
Forest Pest infestation	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Healthy Communities						
Improving Physical and Behavioral Conditions						
Percent of stormwater structure inspections that resulted						
in treatments to control immature mosquitoes	14%	8%	12%	15%	10%	14%

A complete list of performance measures can be viewed at <a href="https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget/fy-2026-advertised-performance-measures-pm">https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget/fy-2026-advertised-performance-measures-pm</a>

#### **FUND STATEMENT**

Category	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Adopted Budget Plan	FY 2025 Revised Budget Plan	FY 2026 Advertised Budget Plan
Beginning Balance	\$5,905,878	\$5,213,887	\$6,131,628	\$5,420,684
Revenue:				
General Property Taxes	\$3,108,450	\$3,227,550	\$3,227,550	\$3,227,550
Interest on Investments	152,413	7,691	7,691	7,691
Charges for Services County	318	0	0	0
Total Revenue	\$3,261,181	\$3,235,241	\$3,235,241	\$3,235,241
Total Available	\$9,167,059	\$8,449,128	\$9,366,869	\$8,655,925
Expenditures:				
Forest Health Program	\$1,515,779	\$1,652,357	\$1,761,325	\$1,789,280
Disease-Carrying Insects Program	1,368,652	2,006,565	2,025,036	1,959,187
Total Expenditures	\$2,884,431	\$3,658,922	\$3,786,361	\$3,748,467
Transfers Out:1				
General Fund (10001) - Forest Health Program	\$67,609	\$71,560	\$71,560	\$71,560
General Fund (10001) - Disease-Carrying Insects Program	83,391	88,264	88,264	88,264
Total Transfers Out	\$151,000	\$159,824	\$159,824	\$159,824
Total Disbursements	\$3,035,431	\$3,818,746	\$3,946,185	\$3,908,291
Ending Balance <sup>2</sup>	\$6,131,628	\$4,630,382	\$5,420,684	\$4,747,634
Tax Rate Per \$100 of Assessed Value	\$0.001	\$0.001	\$0.001	\$0.001

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Funding in the amount of \$159,824 is transferred to the General Fund to partially offset central support services supported by the General Fund which benefit Fund 40080, Integrated Pest Management Program. These indirect costs include support services such as Human Resources, Purchasing, Budget, and other administrative services.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Due to the cyclical nature of pest populations, the treatment requirements supported by this fund may fluctuate from year to year. Therefore, Ending Balances may also fluctuate depending on the level of treatment necessary to suppress spongy moth, cankerworm, emerald ash borer, or West Nile Virus - carrying mosquito populations in a given year.