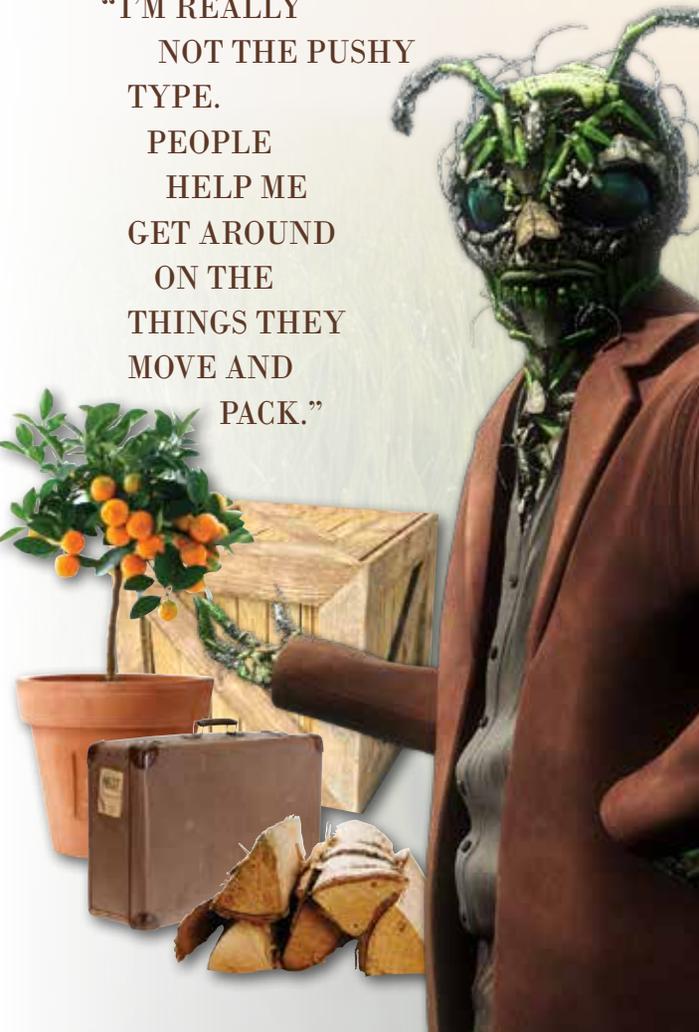


HOW DO THEY GET HERE?

Although some invasive species can slip into the United States naturally via wind or ocean currents, it's uncommon. Most get help from human activities, entering our country in cargo, mail, and passenger baggage. Agricultural produce, nursery stock, cut flowers, and timber can harbor these pests, and invasive species also hitchhike on containers, crates, or pallets.

“I’M REALLY NOT THE PUSHY TYPE. PEOPLE HELP ME GET AROUND ON THE THINGS THEY MOVE AND PACK.”



DID YOU KNOW?

The cost of invasive species exceeds \$1 billion annually. Farmers lose crops, prices for produce and goods increase, and the quarantines imposed on our agricultural exports can be devastating. Plus, there are cleanup costs associated with eradicating these hungry pests.

Invasive species throw our ecosystem off balance. These hungry pests feast on and infest our agriculture, damage our parks and forests, wreck our gardens, push out native species, reduce biological diversity, and change wildfire frequency and intensity. Some pests can even be dangerous to human health.

For more information, visit



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Issued July 2018
Program Aid No. 2113-WA

“WHAT A BEAUTIFUL STATE YOU LIVE IN. I COULD JUST EAT IT UP!”

Invasive species threaten to devour our crops, trees, and way of life. Learn how to leave hungry pests behind.



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WASHINGTON?

Washington is currently at risk of invasion from, or already invaded by, the following species:

Detected

- Japanese beetle
- European chafer¹
- European gypsy moth
- Apple maggot²
- Mediterranean snail
- Thousand cankers disease

At Risk

- Emerald ash borer
- Sirex woodwasp
- Asian/citrus longhorned beetle³
- Asian gypsy moth³
- Sudden oak death⁴

¹Not state or federally regulated, but of concern to Washington

²State-regulated only

³Previously detected and eradicated

⁴Previously found in nurseries and eradicated and is continuously monitored

HOW ARE WE AFFECTED?

Washington offers exciting opportunities to experience nature, attracting visitors from around the world to our national parks, forests, trails, wild and scenic rivers, wildlife refuges, and more. Outdoor recreation contributes over \$21.6 billion to our State's economy annually. This industry supports nearly 200,000 jobs.

Washington is also a leading producer of fruit and vegetable crops. Our 36,000 farms produce more than \$10.6 billion of products annually, including \$2.3 billion of apples, \$1 billion of milk, and \$8.3 million of potatoes.

Invasive species threaten our natural resources and agricultural industry. Experts estimate that invasive species cost the United States approximately \$120 billion a year. This includes damage to crops, fisheries, forests, and other resources, as well as costs to prevent, monitor, and control invasive species. You can help protect Washington from invasive species by reporting any sightings of them.

To learn more, visit: www.HungryPests.com

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

There are many ways you can help stop the spread of invasive species, no matter where you live—and that's by preventing their introduction in the first place.

Buy Local, Burn Local. Invasive pests can hide and ride long distances in firewood. Don't give them a free ride to start a new infestation—buy firewood where you'll burn it.

Plant Carefully. Buy your plants from a reputable source and avoid using invasive plant species at all costs.

Do Not Bring or Mail fresh fruits, vegetables, or plants into your State or another State unless agricultural inspectors have cleared them beforehand.

Cooperate with any agricultural quarantine restrictions and allow authorized agricultural workers access to your property for pest or disease surveys.

Keep It Clean. Wash animals, tires, and gear between fishing, hunting, or camping trips. Clean lawn furniture when moving it from one home to another.

We can fight back against these hungry pests and keep them from destroying our ecosystems, crops, and local plant life.

Learn To Identify. If you see signs of an invasive pest or disease, write down the location of the sighting, take a picture, and report it to the Washington Invasive Species Council (invasivespecies.wa.gov) or through the "WA Invasives" mobile app. You may also send reports to your local APHIS office (aphis.usda.gov/planthealth/sphd); Washington State Department of Agriculture (agr.wa.gov/Portals/PI/ or 360-902-2070); or Washington Plant Pest Diagnostic Clinic at Washington State University (plantpath.wsu.edu/diagnostics).

Speak Up. Declare all agricultural items to customs officials when returning from international travel. Call USDA to find out what's allowed:

- **(301) 851-2046** for questions about plants
- **(301) 851-3300** for questions about animals

“WHAT'S THE
BIG DEAL?
DO I LOOK
INVASIVE?”

