



TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR HOMEOWNERS WITH HEMLOCKS



The Hemlock woolly adelgid, the invasive insect that is killing our Hemlock trees, is spreading rapidly across north Georgia. With a life cycle that produces two generations per year, a single adelgid can multiply into as many as 90,000 offspring. At that rate, even large Hemlocks can be overwhelmed and die in as few as two to four years after infestation here in the south. But there are steps YOU can take to prevent this calamity.

1. If you have a **few small trees** (up to eight feet tall), you can spray them with non-systemic products such as insecticidal soap, horticultural oil, or any insecticide that kills aphids. These products are available at most hardware stores. Be sure to coat the whole tree, including the underside of all limbs and leaves. The best time to treat them is mid-June through September when the insects are not covered in their white wool. Systemic foliar sprays can be used any time of the year.



2. If you have just a **few large trees** on level ground, you can use a systemic product containing a 75% concentration of the active ingredient Imidacloprid as a soil drench. This treatment method can be used any time of the year, as long as the soil is not frozen or excessively wet. Spring is best time to treat, with fall being second best. Follow the directions on the label carefully; also download/print the Instructions for Treating Hemlocks with Imidacloprid from our web site at http://www.lumpkincoalition.org/Save_the_Hemlocks.htm.

3. If you have **many large trees** and want to keep your costs down, you should consider treating your trees by soil injection. You can borrow a Kioritz Soil Injector from either the Forestry Commission or Lumpkin Coalition (a \$250 refundable deposit is requested), get information on where to purchase the treatment products, and request a short demonstration on how to use the injector. Also download/print the Instructions for Treating Hemlocks with Imidacloprid from our web site at http://www.lumpkincoalition.org/Save_the_Hemlocks.htm.



4. If **you and your neighbors want to join forces** to protect large numbers of trees, you may call Scott Griffin, the Forestry Commission's Forest Health Specialist. He will come to your group and provide training on how to use the injector and how to plan your preservation efforts. Scott can be reached at 770-531-6043.
5. If you **have limited time and/or would prefer to contract with a professional to treat your trees**, you can call the Hemlock Help Line for a list of qualified local companies that do this work at a reasonable cost and are willing to travel to your property:

CALL THE HEMLOCK HELP LINE 706-429-8010

OR

VISIT THE SAVE THE HEMLOCKS PAGE OF OUR WEB SITE AT

www.lumpkincoalition.org/Save_the_Hemlocks.htm