

July 7, 2025

Subject: APHIS Removes the Town of Holden in Worcester County, Massachusetts from the Asian Longhorned Beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*) Quarantined Area

To: State, Tribal, and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

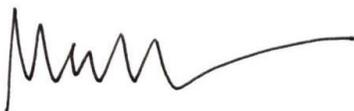
Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is removing 12.3 square miles from the Asian longhorned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*; ALB) quarantined area in Worcester County, Massachusetts. The area consists of the Town of Holden. APHIS determined that this area could be removed from the quarantine after the ALB Program completed final surveys of host trees. The northern portion of the Town of Auburn and the Towns of Boylston/West Boylston, Shrewsbury, and Worcester remain under quarantine. The attached Federal Order describes the quarantined area removed and includes the associated reference to [7 Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\) § 301.51 et. seq.](#) that lists the provisions for the movement of ALB-regulated articles.

ALB is a destructive wood-boring pest that threatens 12 genera of hardwood trees, including maple, in North America. APHIS first discovered ALB in the United States in New York in August 1996. APHIS later detected ALB in areas of Illinois (1998), New Jersey (2002, 2004), Massachusetts (2008, 2010), Ohio (2011), and South Carolina (2020). After the completion of control and regulatory activities, and following confirmation surveys, APHIS declared ALB eradicated in Illinois (2008); Hudson County, New Jersey (2008); Islip, New York (2011); Union and Middlesex Counties, New Jersey (2013); Manhattan and Staten Island, New York (2013); Suffolk and Norfolk Counties, Massachusetts (2014); portions of Batavia, Monroe, and Stonelick Townships, Ohio (2018); Brooklyn and Queens, New York (2019); and a portion of Tate Township, Ohio (2025). Program activities continue in Worcester County, Massachusetts; Nassau and Suffolk Counties in New York; Clermont County, Ohio; and Charleston and Dorchester Counties in South Carolina.

The [APHIS ALB webpage](#) contains the full lists of ALB-quarantined areas and regulated articles. APHIS will publish a notice of this change in the Federal Register.

For additional information regarding the APHIS ALB Eradication Program, you may contact:

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Matthew A. Rhoads  
Acting Deputy Administrator  
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment: Federal Order

**United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
Plant Protection and Quarantine**

FEDERAL ORDER

APHIS Removes the Town of Holden in Worcester County, Massachusetts from the  
Quarantined Area for the Asian Longhorned Beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*)

DA-2025-26  
July 7, 2025

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is removing 12.3 square miles, consisting of the Town of Holden, from the Asian longhorned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*; ALB)-quarantined area in Worcester County, Massachusetts. APHIS will publish a notice of this change in the Federal Register.

This Federal Order is issued in accordance with the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, [7 U.S.C. § 7701 et seq.](#) Section 412(a) of the Plant Protection Act ([7 U.S.C. § 7712\(a\)](#)) authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant product, article, or means of conveyance, if the Secretary determines the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest within the United States. The regulatory authority provided by [7 U.S.C. § 7754](#) allows the Secretary to issue orders to carry out this provision of the Plant Protection Act. This Federal Order is likewise issued pursuant to the regulations promulgated under the Plant Protection Act found at [7 Code of Federal Regulations \(CFR\) § 301.51 et. seq.](#)

[7 CFR § 301.51-3\(a\)](#) allows the designation of less than an entire state as an ALB-quarantined area only when two criteria are met. First, that the state enforces an intrastate ALB quarantine that is equivalent to the Federal ALB quarantine. In accordance, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation confirmed the establishment of an intrastate quarantine for a portion of Worcester County that mirrors the Federal interstate quarantine. Second, that the APHIS Administrator has determined, as in this case, that such a designation is adequate to prevent the artificial interstate spread of this pest.

The APHIS Administrator has determined that the quarantined area listed above no longer needs to be regulated to prevent the artificial (human-assisted) spread of ALB after the completion of control and regulatory activities based on the results of final, negative surveys of regulated host plants within the quarantined area.

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and Middlesex Counties, New Jersey (2013); Manhattan and Staten Island, New York (2013); Suffolk and Norfolk Counties, Massachusetts (2014); portions of Batavia, Monroe, and Stonelick Townships, Ohio (2018); Brooklyn and Queens, New York (2019); and a portion of Tate Township, Ohio (2025). Program activities continue in Worcester County, Massachusetts; Nassau and Suffolk Counties in New York; Clermont County, Ohio; and Charleston and Dorchester Counties in South Carolina.

The [APHIS ALB webpage](#) contains the full lists of ALB-quarantined areas and regulated articles.

For more information, you may contact David Gruchot at [David.J.Gruchot@usda.gov](mailto:David.J.Gruchot@usda.gov) or (847) 699-2421.

APHIS appreciates the cooperative relationship with the State of Massachusetts in the effort to prevent the spread of ALB.