



MEDIA ADVISORY

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Impacts of invasive insects on communities will be focus of upcoming conference

The U.S. Forest Service and the Morton Arboretum will host an important conference this fall that will explore the impact of invasive insects on communities.

The two-day conference called "*Coping with the Costs: The Economic, Social and Environmental Impacts of Invasive Insects on our Communities*" will be held at the Morton Arboretum in the Chicago area, Sept. 29-30.

The focus of the conference is to develop and share strategies for communities facing or anticipating the economic, social and environmental impacts of invasive pests. These destructive insects include the emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle, gypsy moth and others.

The forum is intended to connect managers of invasive pest-affected communities with potential resources. These could help managers deal with economic impacts, minimize further tree loss and move toward tree restoration.

The conference will feature speakers, presentations, panel discussions and provide networking opportunities.

Other conference partners include Purdue University and the Nature Conservancy.

Topics on Day 1 will include a wide variety of invasive species-related subjects. Day 2 will feature speakers on topics such as long-term management and restoration/replanting..

The forum is open to anyone, and will be of special interest to mayors, public works directors, city planners, state partners, green industry representatives, green organization members and educators.

For more information about the conference call Judy Antipin at 610-557-4183 or visit: <http://www.mortonarb.org/adult-programs/seminars-a-workshops.html>

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