

# REPORT SPOTTED LANTERNFLY SIGHTINGS



## Watch for Swarms of Spotted Lanternfly

By State Rep. Joe Emrick  
 SLATE BELT - Spotted Lanternfly, having grown into adults after storing up the summer warmth and energy, are beginning to swarm. They hunt for tall structures such as trees and houses in preparation to launch themselves into the wind, look for food and find a safe place to lay their eggs. The Spotted Lanternfly poses no harm to humans; however, they disrupt outdoor activity and feed off several types of trees.

These swarming events give researchers a good idea of where large populations might exist today, and where egg masses will likely be found in the winter months. Reporting these swarms via the Public Reporting Tool will aid researchers and treatment staff alike in the effort to slow the spread of this invasive insect.

In 2019, more than 90,000 sightings were reported to the PA Department of Agriculture, with the majority coming in during the September swarm. In 2020, the department saw a 50-80% increase in the number of early season peaks compared to 2019.

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Blue Valley Times

# Bi-State Elected Officials United to Preserve the Gap

By Senator Mario Scevello  
 UMBT TWSP. - This week, I spoke at a press conference held by the Bi-State Elected Officials United to Preserve the Gap. This group of 14 elected representatives from both PA and NJ are committed to fighting the proposed rockfall mitigation project along I-80 just over the border in NJ. Since being made aware of the project in 2017, the project has garnered opposition from more than 20 municipalities and groups including the Sierra Club and the National Parks Conservation Association.

This project has been shrouded in secrecy by NJDOT since its inception. That fact is only highlighted by the attached letter, which I shared last night from the PA State Historic Preservation Office which states that their initial opinion of the project (that it would have "no adverse effect") was ill-informed due to the lack in transparency by NJDOT. Recently, NJDOT doubled down on their strategy of secrecy, as they rebuffed requests for more dialog with elected officials. Rather, they are forming a "public advisory group." However, NJDOT has barred elected officials like me from participating in or even attending these meetings. As a State Senator, whose district will be gravely impacted by this half-baked project, this is entirely unacceptable. Projects like this do not take place in a vacuum, and they should never be shrouded by secrecy and misinformation.

I will continue to push back against NJDOT and this ill-conceived project that does nothing to fix what we all know to be the real problem- the s-curves on I-80.

If you were not able to attend, you can see the conference here:

Part 1: <https://youtu.be/2k6luO044MQ>

Part 2: [https://youtu.be/CecQQQy\\_GpM](https://youtu.be/CecQQQy_GpM)



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### WHEN:



Every Wednesday evening  
in September 2020

All sessions are FREE and open to all!

### WHERE:



Sessions are held  
virtually via Zoom.us

### HOW:



To register, please visit:  
<http://bit.ly/SoNowWhatSeries>

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Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> (rain date 9/27)

8 am - 2 pm

1310 Blue Valley Drive, Pen Argyl behind Washington Pet/Ignite Fitness

Enjoy shopping with our Slate Belt Business Owners as well as Yard Sale vendors!

Space Fees: \$20 for SBCC Members

\$25 Non SBCC Member Tables

You will have a 10 x 10 area to use. Please bring your table/chair, tent, items, etc. All vendor spaces must be set up prior to the event start time.

You must also provide an item of your choice for a silent auction.

*This is an opportunity to showcase your business outdoors during these critical times.*

Social distancing and masks are required.

Space is limited, first come, first serve!

Registration and fee must be received before 9/15 to SBCC 187 Blue Valley Dr. Bangor PA 18013 or online [www.slatebeltchamber.org](http://www.slatebeltchamber.org).

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