

We Want to Protect your Trees

Did you know?

The Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer, is an invasive beetle that carries two fungi: *Fusarium euwallaceae* and *Graphium* sp. The adult female tunnels galleries into a wide variety of host trees, where it lays its eggs and grows the fungi. The fungi cause a disease called Fusarium Dieback, which interrupts the transport of water and nutrients in over 110 tree species.

Identifying Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer and their damage

- These vary from species to species, but they typically include tiny little pinholes in the tree bark and sawdustlike powder, called frass, around the holes.
- The beetle produces a very precise, perfectly round, tiny (< 0.1 inches in diameter) entry hole in most trees.
- Infection with the fungus can cause a dry or wet and oily dark stain surrounding the entry holes, discolored wood, leaf discoloration and wilting, and dieback of entire branches.
- Frass (wood dust from boring) may be produced, but because this can quickly dissolve in water it can be easy to miss. If the barked is scraped away, dark dead tissue may be found around the galleries

How to keep your trees vigorous to reduce attacks

- Providing adequate irrigation and limiting nitrogen can reduce susceptibility to damage.
- Systemic insecticides have sometimes provided control, but efficacy has been variable and sometimes disappointing.
- Don't wait until infestations are severe to monitor trees because cultural practices such as changes in irrigation or nitrogen application are primarily preventive and must be applied early
- Contact Arboristas to have one of our Certified Arborist perform an annual inspection.



The polyphagous shot hole borer is a major problem in L.A. County, killing native and non-native trees and spreading rapidly.



The polyphagous shot hole borer is smaller than a grain of rice