



## VILLAGE OF DEERFIELD

September 22, 2008

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Village Manager's Office

### **Initial Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) Search Concluded in Deerfield and Surrounding Areas**

The Village of Deerfield was notified today that professionals from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDA) have completed their search for infestation of the Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) in Deerfield and surrounding communities. A beetle found in Deerfield on Friday, August 1, 2008 was confirmed as an ALB, kicking off a search of a one mile radius from the discovery site. After visually inspecting thousands of host trees, including climbing many that seemed more prone to infestation, to date, no additional signs of ALB infestation have been found.

Despite this phase of the search ending, the IDA and USDA will continue to respond to all ALB hotline calls (847/699.2424 or 866/603.0590) and will conduct ALB training sessions and informational meetings in surrounding communities in an effort to train those working in communities on what to look for in relation to possible infestations. Village of Deerfield staff received this training in mid-August. The IDA and USDA will likely continue the search this winter as winter is the best time to survey for ALB as there are no leaves on trees.

The ALB was recently declared eradicated in the Chicago area after a significant tree removal program was believed to have been successful in quarantining the insect before the specimen was discovered in Deerfield. It is a large insect, with bodies ranging from 1 to 1 ½ inches in length and antennae which can be as long as four inches. They are shiny and black with white spots and antennae are banded in black and white. Anyone in the Deerfield community who sees one of these distinctive insects is asked to contact the ALB Hotline at 847/699.2424 or 866/603.0590 immediately so that it can be identified by professionals. Additional information can be found on the Village's website, [www.deerfield-il.org](http://www.deerfield-il.org).

For more information, please contact Jennifer Medina at the IDA at 847/699.2402, or call the 24-information line at 866/603.0590, for questions related to this issue or to report a sighting. Direct contacts at the Village of Deerfield include Philip Kiraly, Assistant Village Manager, at 847/945.5000 or via email at [pkiraly@deerfield-il.org](mailto:pkiraly@deerfield-il.org) or Brad Fink, Assistant Director of Public Works, at 847/317.7245 or via email at [bfink@deerfield-il.org](mailto:bfink@deerfield-il.org).

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