

Beetle Busters

Another insect pest, the Asian longhorned beetle, has invaded Ohio and is threatening our hardwood trees. The ALB is harmless to humans and pets but deadly to the many types of trees that it infests. The adult is a distinctive-looking insect with the following unique characteristics:

- 1 to 1 ½ inches in length
- Long antennae banded with black and white (longer than the insect's body)
- Shiny, jet black body with distinctive white spots
- Six legs
- May have blue feet

The hardwood trees at risk include: ash, birches, elm, European mountain ash, hackberry, horsechestnut, London planetree, maple, mimosa, poplars, willow and katsura.

One of the most important ways you can help stop the ALB is to look for it and report it using the online form or call the Ohio Cooperative ALB Eradication Program directly at (866) 702-9938 or (855) 252-6450.

Adult beetles are most active during the summer and early fall. They can be seen on trees, branches, walls, outdoor furniture, cars, and sidewalks. Never move firewood – it may contain the beetle, its larvae or eggs. Humans can unknowingly transport it hundreds of



miles in firewood. Cutting a tree into firewood does not kill all ALB developing inside it. Adult beetles can still emerge. The best approach is to burn firewood in the county where you get it.



You'll save about \$6 in energy costs each year if you replace one traditional 100W incandescent with an ENERGY STAR CFL.*

* Savings based on 2 hours per day usage and 11¢/kWh energy cost.

Light Bulbs Beginning in 2012, common light bulbs sold in the U.S. will typically use about 25% to 80% less energy. Many bulbs meet these new, higher efficiency standards set by the bipartisan Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA 2007), including incandescent, CFLs, and LEDs, and are already available for purchase today. The newer bulbs provide a wide range of choices in color and brightness, and many of them will last much longer than traditional light bulbs. The lighting standards, which phase in from 2012-2014, do not ban incandescent or any specific bulb type; they say that bulbs need to use about 25% less energy.

See [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for some of the most frequently asked questions and answers about the new lighting efficiency standards. Learn more about your [lighting choices](#) and find out how to [shop for lights by lumens, not watts](#).



The Treasury Department's **Go Direct**® public education campaign is helping educate federal benefit recipients (Social Security, VA, etc.) about the new electronic payments requirement and what it means for them. The Treasury Department is phasing out paper check payments and requiring federal benefit recipients to get their money electronically. You can choose to get your payments by **direct deposit** to a bank or credit union account or to a **Direct Express**® Debit MasterCard® card account.

With less than one year left until the March 1, 2013, deadline for all-electronic federal benefit payments, the U.S. Treasury Department is urging recipients to switch to **direct deposit** or the **Direct Express**® Debit MasterCard® card now instead of waiting for the deadline. With electronic payments, people can count on their money being on time, every time, even in severe weather. For ideas to promote electronic payments or to download materials, visit www.GoDirect.org.



US Mint Since the Coinage Act of 1792, the U.S. Mint has had the responsibility of producing and distributing circulating coins. It also produces commemorative coins. The recently released Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative coin celebrates a signature event of the War of 1812. There are separate designs for the \$5 gold coin and the \$1 silver coin. Learn more about all the commemorative coins at www.usmint.gov/mint_programs

Coins are History In your Pocket. Discover the hidden stories behind our coins at the U.S. Mint's education section, [h.i.p.p. pocket change at www.usmint.gov/kids/](http://h.i.p.pocketchangeatwww.usmint.gov/kids/). Spark a child's interest in coin collecting and learning some U.S. history along the way. There are games and puzzles for children and lesson plans and resources for educators.



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