

Who came with you to Colorado?



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These are NOT good traveling companions. Leave them at home or wherever you find them!

Whenever you can, please take a few minutes to inspect your vehicle and outdoor equipment for signs of these species, their eggs, or other unwelcome hitchhikers. Pressure wash your undercarriage or recreation equipment and scrape off and squish any insect hitchhikers and their eggs. It makes a very satisfying sound! Visit extension.psu.edu/what-should-you-do-with-spotted-lanternfly-egg-masses.



Spotted lanternfly egg masses under their plaster-like covering are often found on trees or flat surfaces of vehicles in the late-summer through winter.

(Richard Gardner, Bugwood.org)



Spotted Lanternfly (adult/left; immature/below): Lawrence Barringer, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org



Invasive pest species,

including bugs, seeds, and mollusks, often like to hitch a ride on RVs, boats and trailers, or other recreation and camping equipment. Invaders such as **zebra mussels** (right), the **Japanese beetle** (middle), or the **brown marmorated stink bug** (bottom), can pose a real threat to the often pastoral landscapes and rural economies that tourists enjoy and depend on when they visit Colorado.

Zebra Mussels: Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org; Japanese Beetle: Joseph Berger, Bugwood.org; Brown Marmorated Stink Bug: Susan Ellis, Bugwood.org

Another nasty hitchhiker is the **spotted lanternfly (SLF)** (top), which The U.S. Department of Agriculture has called "the worst invasive species in 150 years." This particular bug, currently found in Pennsylvania and adjacent states, poses a potential threat to grapevines, hops, peaches, apples, and ornamental trees—all enjoyed by visitors to Colorado, whether as a scenic backdrop for a camping site or in a glass of local wine or beer.

Inspect your vehicle thoroughly before you leave home, to respect Colorado's farmers and forests. And do it again before you return home, to be sure that you aren't taking anyone home you don't want living in your state.

For more resources, visit pesttracker.org, a comprehensive information source on invasive species across the country created by a partnership between the USDA, U.S. Forest Service, the National Plant Board, and the Bugwood Network.

Find out what pests from your home base region can be a threat elsewhere, and what pests from Colorado or any travel destination you plan to visit can pose a threat back home by contacting:

- Your state's department of agriculture
- Or local extension offices

If you have questions about any pest, best practices for removing pests, or want to report a sighting, contact the Colorado Department of Agriculture Cooperative Ag Pest Survey Program.

Kristin Wolfe, CAPS Program Manager
888-248-5535 OR 303-869-9081
or CAPS.program@state.co.us
ag.colorado.gov/plants/pest-survey



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