



INVADER ALERT Asian Longhorned Beetle Identified in Worcester

The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) has been discovered attacking trees in the northeastern United States; at this point, Worcester is the only city in Massachusetts that has confirmed ALB contamination. This beetle is a serious pest in China, where it kills hardwood trees in roadside plantings, shelterbelts, and plantations. ALB probably traveled to the United States inside solid wood packing material from Asia.

The Asian longhorned beetle has one generation per year. Adult beetles are usually present from July to October, but can be found later in the fall if temperatures are warm. Adults usually stay on the trees from which they emerged, or they may disperse short distances to a new host to feed and reproduce. Each female is capable of laying up to 160 eggs. The eggs hatch in 10-15 days and



the larvae tunnel under the bark and into the wood where they eventually pupate. The adults emerge from pupation sites by boring a tunnel in the wood and creating a round exit hole in the tree. This exit hole—which is perfectly round, and a little smaller than the size of a dime—is the signature of ALB. Asian longhorned beetles live on hardwood trees, and prefer maple, elm, and birch trees.

The USDA is coordinating the eradication efforts in Worcester, as well as surveying trees in adjacent areas surrounding the infestation.

For more information on this pest, visit <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/alb> or <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lppq/ep/alb>. There have been no sightings of the Asian longhorned beetle in Wellesley; however, if you suspect your tree is infested, contact:

Michael T. Quinn, Deputy Tree Warden, 781-235-7600, ext. 3331. or e mail: mquinn@wellesleyma.gov

Picture courtesy of Columbia University.

Letter from the Director

As we move into winter, we start the third year of our Snow Enforcement Program, an initiative designed to make winter operations as safe and efficient as possible in Wellesley. A reminder—moving snow into the public way (roadway or sidewalk) is prohibited; if a contractor pushes snow into the public way, the property owner is responsible and could be fined up to \$50 per offense. Similarly, no vehicles can be parked on the roadway during plowing operations. Please read the article on Snow Plowing in this issue for more information on the Town's winter operations.

This issue also contains information on several construction projects throughout Town, including improvements to Linden Street and Glen Road. Please read the Construction Update for the latest developments, as well as work scheduled to begin in the 2009 construction season. The Construction Update also highlights the work completed at the Sprague Field complex. To help us keep this facility in top condition, please take a moment to read the restrictions for the synthetic field, either at Sprague or at the DPW homepage: <http://www.wellesleyma.gov/DPW>.

Finally, 2009 brings important changes to state law regarding excavations and trenches on both public and private property. Please read the article on "Jackie's Law" for more information on how this affects you.

As always, we welcome your feedback—about the newsletter, or any other DPW issues. Feel free to email your comments, questions or concerns to dpw@wellesleyma.gov.

Michael Pakstis
Director of Public Works

Construction Update Update Fall 2008

Glen Road Reconstruction Project

The reconstruction of Glen Road from Washington Street to Croton Street (Phase I) is completed.

Phase II of the reconstruction of Glen Road is underway. This second phase has been modified to include the section from the railroad bridge at Hundreds Road to approximately Ridgeway Road.

The DPW Highway Division has completed the drainage improvements and reconstruction, installing new pipe and catch basin structures. A subcontractor to the Highway Division has completed the installation of the granite curbing on both sides of the roadway.

By the end of October, Phase II of Glen Road had been cold planed, treated with hot-rubber sealant and then paved with bituminous concrete.

Portions of the final restoration of Phase II of the Glen Road project, including loaming and seeding, will not be done until the spring to allow the grass to have a good chance of reestablishing.

A third phase of reconstruction, to begin next spring, will extend from Ridgeway Road to the Weston town line. Phase III of the Glen Road project includes the installation of a retaining wall, reconstruction of old stone drainage structures, installation of bituminous concrete berm, full reconstruction of the roadway and work by private utility companies such as reconstruction of an existing gas main by National Grid.

Linden Street (Kingsbury Street to Rockland Street)

The section of the Linden Street Reconstruction Project between Kingsbury Street and Rockland Street is underway.

DPW Highway Division personnel began the drainage component of the project by installing new HDPE drain pipe, new catch basins and the reconstruction of old stone catch basins. Eighty percent (80%) of the drainage work has been completed and the remainder will be completed in the spring of 2009.

The sidewalks along the entire length of the project have been excavated and replaced with bituminous concrete binder. All sidewalks will be

Inside This Issue

- Construction Update (cont.)..... 2
- RDF News: TV Recycling 2
- Snow Tips 3
- Excavation Requirements..... 3
- Pavement Practices 3
- Snow Plowing 4

Television Recycling

The RDF is changing the way residents recycle their televisions, monitors and computers. The new system is designed to be more efficient, easier and safer for the handling of the hundreds of televisions and monitors that come in on a regular basis. The drop-off area is located in the same location as before, just beyond the paint shed on the right side of the road.

Residents will be asked to determine the size of the televisions before placing them in the proper designated area. If the item is smaller than 27 inches, residents will be instructed to place them face down through a large window, at waist height. If the item is 27 inches or larger, residents will be instructed to place them on the ground in a designated area.

Also, **did you know** that your television will no longer receive analog signal after February 17, 2009? The Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005 requires TV stations to stop broadcasting in analog and to broadcast only in digital. The digital transition will provide a better viewing experience for consumers and free up airwaves for use by emergency personnel.

The federal government is offering U.S. households up to two \$40 coupons to help pay for the cost of a certified converter box. TVs connected to cable, satellite, or other pay services do not need a converter box to receive programs after February 17, 2009. This transition will not affect DVD players or VCR's.

What do I need to do? For each analog TV you own, you need to decide before February 17, 2009 how you would like to get programming after the change to digital.

What are my options? 1) Buy a converter box that will plug into your current TV. 2) Buy a TV with a digital tuner. 3) Connect the analog TV to cable, satellite or other pay service.

For more information on the digital transition, please go to: www.DTV2009.gov

RDF HOURS

Monday – Wednesday
7:00 am - 12:00 noon

Thursday – Friday
7:00 am - 3:45 pm

Saturday
7:00 am - 4:45 pm

Sunday – closed

The RDF is Closed on the following holidays:

Thanksgiving – 11/27/08

Christmas – 12/25/08

New Year's Day – 1/1/09

Martin Luther King Day – 1/19/09

Presidents Day – 2/16/09

Patriots' Day – 4/25/09

Construction Update (from front page)

made plowable for the winter. Portions of the sidewalk will be completed before the end of the 2008 construction season. The sidewalk reconstruction includes the removal of driveway aprons, paving of a binder course for the driveway aprons and then paving the entire sidewalk and driveway aprons with the top or wearing course.

By the end of October, the portion of Linden Street between Kingsbury Street and Geraldine Drive had been cold planed by a subcontractor.

In the spring, work will continue on the portion of Linden Street between Geraldine Drive and Rockland Street. This work will consist of drainage improvements and reconstruction, full depth reconstruction of the roadway, and repaving. This will again be accomplished with a combination of DPW Highway Division personnel and subcontractors. New flashing pedestrian signals to be located at the corner of Linden Street at Alba Road will be completed as well. Conduit and bases for this signal have already been installed.

Woodside Avenue

Work is currently proceeding with the reconstruction of Woodside Avenue. The project will include the reconstruction and paving of the roadway, installation of new stormwater collection and BMP (Best Management Practices) facilities, construction of a new bituminous concrete sidewalk on the east side of Woodside Avenue, and bituminous concrete Cape Cod berm. The work is being performed by Greener Excavating, LLC of Lowell, MA under contract to the Department of Public Works. By the end of the 2008 construction season the project is expected to be substantially completed with the exception of the top or wearing course of pavement and final site restoration, which will take place in the spring of 2009.

Abutters to Woodside Avenue are advised that once the project is completed, no excavations will be permitted within Woodside Avenue for a period of three (3) years, except in case of an emergency. Abutters are urged to make any utility service upgrades or arrange for new services requiring excavation prior to the reconstruction of the roadway.

If the newly constructed roadway requires excavation due to an emergency, the following items will be required.

The excavation or trench must be filled with flowable Controlled Density Fill (CDF). The finished product must be excavatable without the use of power tools.

Pavement restoration requires cold planing and overlay pavement of the entire frontage from curb to curb of the property where the excavation was performed. Joints must be sealed with emulsion seal and sand cover. There must be a smooth transition from existing pavement to the new pavement.

Sprague Fields Reconstruction Project

The project to reconstruct the athletic fields at the Sprague Elementary School has been completed. From the 1940's to the early 50's this site served as a municipal dump. The Town was required to remediate the former dumpsite in accordance with Mass DEP regulations by June 2009 or stop using this area. While there was no health risk associated with the continued use of the site as an athletic fields complex, the remediation of the site was a requirement. The Sprague Fields Task Force, consisting of members of various Town Boards and Committees, abutters, Sprague School parents and administration, and the various youth athletic clubs developed a master plan to outline the reconstruction. The master plan not only addressed the remediation of the former dump site, but provided space for an elementary school playground, restored natural grass for a multi-use field immediately adjacent to the Sprague School, created a softball field adjacent to the Sprague School, created two synthetic turf multi-use fields and provided for two full-sized baseball fields with natural grass multi-use spaces in the outfields.

The DPW Engineering Division has worked closely with Gale Associates, the Town's consultant and Green Acres Landscape and Construction of Lakeville, MA, the Town's contractor during reconstruction of the athletic fields. Although the project is now completed, the natural grass fields will remain unavailable for use until the spring of 2009. The two (2) synthetic turf fields have been in use since they were completed in mid-September.

Street Occupancy Permits

The Street Occupancy Permit Program is now closed for the 2008 construction season. The permit program, governing all work within the public ways of Wellesley, including all excavations, placement of dumpsters, driveway reconstruction, and resurfacing, will reopen April 1, 2009 weather permitting. No Street Occupancy Permits will be issued prior to this date. Kindly note, recent requirements include providing 72 hours advance notice to the Water and Sewer Division and the Engineering Division prior to the start of construction activities and placement of water and sewer utilities in separate trenches in accordance with Mass DEP Guidelines.

Permits may be obtained by contacting Gerry Bruno of the DPW Engineering Division at 781-235-7600, ext. 3316 or gbruno@wellesleyma.gov. Mr. Bruno is also available to answer any questions regarding the Street Occupancy Permit Program.

Questions regarding this and any of the projects listed above may be directed to the DPW Engineering Division at (781) 235-7600, ext. 3315.

Winter Snow Tips

1. If possible, wait until the street is plowed before shoveling the end of your driveway. Most roads are pushed back three or four times before the plow trucks have completed their routes.
2. When plowing or snow blowing your driveway, please do not move the snow into or across the road or into the sidewalk. It is against Town bylaws to do so—it creates hazardous conditions for drivers and walkers and increases the cost of snow plowing.
3. If the weather is calling for snow turning to freezing rain, try to wait and shovel your driveway after the freezing rain stops. This will help in keeping your driveway from icing.
4. Plow drivers work long, often dark hours during a storm, and it is difficult to determine the exact center of the road in these conditions. Despite our best efforts, one side of the road may end up with more snow than the other side.
5. It is not uncommon to see a sand truck or snowplow go by your house many times during a storm, particularly on routes that lead to outlying areas. The storm will dictate how many times we sand or plow a street.
6. When driving during a storm, do not pass a plow or sander and maintain a safe distance.
7. If possible, please shovel the fire hydrant near your home as well as any storm drain grates after the storm. If rain follows the snow, street flooding and icing can quickly become a problem.
8. Do not plant trees or shrubs, or place rocks close to the edge of the road. This makes them subject to accidental damage by the sanders and snowplows.
9. Winter sand/salt is available for residents free of charge at the RDF.

Thank you!

Changes in Excavation Regulations

What You Need to Know

As of January 1, 2009, all excavators should be aware of new state regulations regarding trenches in the public way or on public or private property. This new regulation is called “Jackie’s Law” after a young girl who fell into a trench and died as a result, and is designed to protect the public from unattended excavations. This regulation applies to subsurface excavations greater than 3 feet in depth, and less than 15 feet wide at the bottom of the trench.

First, the excavator must obtain a trench permit before beginning any work. In Wellesley, the DPW’s Engineering Division is coordinating the

permitting process. Permits are required even if the trench will never be unattended.

Second, all trenches must either be attended, or must be backfilled, covered with metal road plates measuring at least $\frac{3}{4}$ ” thick, or barricaded with 6 foot fences **at all times**. If a trench is found to be in violation of these requirements, the municipality may order an immediate shutdown of the trench. Excavators in violation of these regulations may also be subject to Department of Public Safety fines.

If you have any questions, or need to obtain a permit for an excavation, please contact Engineering at (781) 235-7600 x3315.

Information

Phone Numbers

(781) 235-7600

Engineering ext. **3315**
Park ext. **3335**
Highway or **3325**
RDF ext. **3345**
Water and Sewer ext. **3355**
Director’s Office ext. **3300**
Customer Service/..... ext. **3364**,
Utility Bills **3365**, or **3369**

DPW Hours of Operation

Monday — Friday
7:00 am - 4:00 pm

EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

Highway DPW

(non-business hours for emergencies)
(781) 235-7600 ext. 3322

Council on Aging:

(781) 235-3961

American

Red Cross:

781-642-7000

(updated MetroWest office info)



IMPROVING PAVEMENT PRACTICES IN WELLESLEY

Wellesley has over 112 miles of road with an estimated value of more than \$87 million. In order to protect this vital asset and keep it operating at full strength, we must be diligent about our pavement maintenance and preservation program.

For the last several years, Wellesley has been maintaining the roadways using the limited techniques of crack sealing the roadways, overlaying the roadways, and grinding and overlaying the roadways where necessary. Crack sealing extends the life of the roadway by keeping water from getting below the road surface where it can cause potholes and other damage. Eventually, due to traffic wear, a roadway will need to be overlaid (“repared”). When the layer of overlays become so high that the road surface is nearing the top of the adjacent curbing, the roadway is ground or milled down prior to a new overlay.

Many years ago we discontinued the use of one of the most cost efficient and effective pavement preservation tools: surface treatment with aggregate cover, better known as chip seal.

Chip seal consists of an application of liquid asphalt emulsion, which is then covered with crushed rock. A chip seal treatment prevents water penetration, reducing subsequent damage to the roadbed, and provides a new, very thin wearing surface. Used with crack sealing and surface patching, chip seal significantly extends the life of a street. The chip seal process costs about \$34,000 per mile and has a life expectancy of 7-12 years. Alternatively, overlay resurfacing costs about \$170,000 per mile and has a life expectancy of 10-15 years, and milling adds another \$30,000 per mile when it is needed. Chip seal won’t work on every road but about 60 percent of our inventory can benefit from a chip seal application.

Wellesley discontinued the use of chip seal many years ago when residents expressed that they preferred the smooth surface and aesthetic value of asphalt overlays, but it has become too expensive to use overlay as our only tool. Because all resurfacing requires liquid asphalt, a petroleum product, and considering the drastic price increases we are currently facing, chip seal is a responsible use of taxpayer dollars.

In the years Wellesley has not used chip seal, this pavement preservation practice has also improved considerably. An alternative to a standard chip seal, called a rubberized chip seal, has become a popular treatment. The primary difference is that the liquid asphalt binder is blended with recycled tire rubber, and the rock is pre-coated with paving grade asphalt. The finished product is much stronger than a standard chip seal, it cures within 30 minutes, and there is virtually no loose rock after the application. However, rubberized chip seal is about 50 percent more expensive and the process is a little less forgiving, so it does come with some challenges and rubberized chip seal will not work on every road.

This summer Wellesley began using chip seal again. We applied the standard “single stone” chip seal to the entire length of Pond Road which is approximately 1.2 miles. Beginning in the spring of 2009, we will begin limited use of chip seal and rubberized chip seal on other streets to determine the most appropriate roads for this preservation technique.

Wellesley DPW
455 Worcester Street
Wellesley Hills, MA 02481-4925

PRSR-STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BOSTON, MA
Permit No. 56467

In This Issue

- ➔ Improving Pavement Practices
- ➔ Television Recycling
- ➔ Asian Longhorned Beetle Alert
- ➔ Snow Plowing
- ➔ Excavation Requirement Changes
- ➔ Snow Tips

Resident Town of Wellesley



Town of Wellesley

Fall/Winter 2008, no. 25

Department of Public Works

Some Things to Know About Snow Plowing in Wellesley

The Wellesley Department of Public Works is responsible for keeping 110 miles of Town roads and 49 miles of sidewalks (along school routes and in commercial areas) passable and safe for travel. Routes 9 and 135 (Central Street from Weston Road to the Natick town line) are maintained by the Massachusetts Highway Department. If you have any concerns about State roads, contact Mass Highway at 617-648-6100.

Wellesley's roads are usually plowed when snow and ice accumulation exceeds three inches, or when salting and sanding are ineffective. In a snowstorm, our highest priority is to provide safe passage for emergency vehicles. After it stops snowing, the DPW continues to clear and widen the streets to enable safe travel.

If you hire a private contractor for snow removal, instruct the contractor not to push the snow into the public way (into the street or onto the sidewalk) or across the street from the mouth of your driveway. This is a violation of Town bylaws, and the property owner could be fined up to \$50 per offense.

We remind all motorists that Town bylaws also prohibit overnight street parking. Vehicles that are

parked on the street can cause dangerous conditions for our plow operators and the public. The DPW will have illegally parked vehicles towed at the owner's expense. Also, please do not park your vehicle in the public way portion of the driveway—the last eight feet of the driveway nearest to the road. This puts your vehicle at risk, can impede snow removal, and your vehicle could be towed.

If DPW equipment damages private property, please notify the Park and Highway Division as soon as possible. The Town is not responsible for damage to private property located in the public way. Residents should not install sprinkler heads or fences in the public way. Although our drivers exercise care and caution when plowing, difficult conditions and poor visibility during snowstorms often make it impossible to see these items. If you have questions about the dividing line between the public way and your private property, Town Atlas Sheets are available at the Town Engineer's Office.

Caution – Children may consider snow piled up near roadways a playground – This is VERY dangerous!

Children playing in deep snow in or near the roadway are not visible to the snow removal crews that continue to clear residential streets well after the snowfall has stopped. Although the snow that has accumulated on sidewalks and near roadways may offer a tempting place for children to play, parents and children are warned that this is extremely dangerous and not permitted on public sidewalks and streets.

If you have any questions or concerns for the Park and Highway Division, please call 781-235-7600, ext. 3325 Monday-Friday, 7 am to 3 pm. If you have an emergency after regular business hours, please call 781-235-7600, ext. 3322.

Questions, comments, please contact us.

Call (781) 235-7600

Mail the DPW

Department of Public Works
Attn: Management Services
455 Worcester Street
Wellesley Hills, MA 02481-4925

Email us at dpw@wellesleyma.gov