

FAQ's for the Spotted Lanternfly Permit and Permit Compliance

Who do I contact for more information?

Direct questions to SLFPermit@pa.gov.

Does my business need a Spotted Lanternfly permit ?

A Spotted Lanternfly permit is required for businesses working within the quarantine, which move products, vehicles or other conveyances within or out of the quarantine.

Multiple states in the Mid-Atlantic area have SLF populations and/or quarantines. Links to those states' SLF information webpages can be accessed through the PA Dept. of Agriculture's SLF [Quarantine page](#).

Do I need to obtain a separate permit for each state with an SLF quarantine?

No, State Regulatory Officials have reciprocal permit agreements. No need for businesses to take multiple permit courses.

I am an out of state company, but I do business in the PA quarantine zone. Do I need a permit?

Yes, you are required to have a permit if you are conducting business in the PA quarantine zone.

My business drives through the PA quarantine zone but does not stop. Do I need a permit?

If you do not stop in the PA quarantine zone for business or for anything except quick stops (i.e. fueling), you are not required to get the permit.

Are school buses in the quarantine zone required to have a permit? What if they are only entering the quarantine zone for field trips, sporting events, etc.?

School buses are required to have permits if they travel normal routes and if traveling for special events.

If I only travel within one quarantined county, do I need to conduct SLF inspections?

Yes, The SLF populations are not equally distributed. We want to prevent spreading from areas of high populations to those with low or no populations and prevent the re-infestation of treated areas.

Does driving through and not stopping in the state require a permit?

If a driver does not stop in and his load does not originate from the quarantine, he does not need a permit.

I do business in the New Jersey SLF quarantine zone, but not the PA SLF quarantine zone. Who gives me a permit?

New Jersey Department of Agriculture will issue permits for those businesses operating only in New Jersey. [New Jersey SLF Training](#) and [New Jersey SLF Exam](#).

We use numerous motor freight carriers that come in to pick up our product and it is moved outside the quarantine area. Would we need a permit for the motor freight carriers to move our product?

Inspect your goods prior to loading onto a third-party vendor trucks. After you complete the permit training, you could request a Permit Certification Label template by emailing SLFPermit@pa.gov.

Or incorporate the following statement onto your bill of lading and include your business name and permit number:

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture certifies these regulated articles have been approved for movement out of the Spotted lanternfly quarantine area. Business Name: Permit #:

I am having problems with the Penn State Online permit course. Who can help me?

Contact Penn State Extension Help @ 1-877-345-0691 or through their online form <https://extension.psu.edu/contacts>. They will be able to assist you through the process.

Which types of vehicles need permits?

All business vehicles travelling within or out of the quarantine need permits.

I will be taking the course online myself along with other instructors. If it is required to register the company and number of vehicles in fleet, would only one registrant register the number of permits needed or would each participant break up the number we need individually?

List the number of vehicles you are responsible for (may be different from company total).

What types of permits are available? Where on/in vehicle is the permit required to be placed?

From program inception until April 2019, hangtag and decal permits were issued. In April 2019, PDA transitioned to a paper permit.

A paper permit is issued to the person who completes the online permit course. The permit can then be copied and distributed to the drivers or into the vehicles the permittee is responsible for. The permit copy should be kept with the registration packet or in a permit book.

Hangtag permit can be displayed on the review mirror or dash while the vehicle is parked. Please remove while in motion. Hangtags may also be kept inside the truck with the registration packet or permit book.

Decal permits can be placed on the driver door/panel or kept inside the truck with the registration packet or permit book.

Drivers need to show the assigned permit if stopped at a checkpoint.

There is a section that says Inspector on the permit, is this to be filled in?

PA Department of Agriculture Regional staff (Plant Inspectors and Regional Supervisors) conduct permit classes and issue permits to attendees. The permits issued in those situations are initialed by the Inspector. You may use that block for something else if you would like, or simply leave it blank.

I already have the SLF Permit but need additional permits. How do I obtain additional permits?

Send requests to SLFPermit@pa.gov. Include the business name, address and person responsible.

May I exchange hangtag permits for decal permits or vice versa?

It is cost prohibitive to exchange permits once issued. Permits can be kept with the vehicle registration or in a permit book. Drivers need to show the assigned permit if stopped at a checkpoint.

How long does it take for permits to be obtained by a business after the Spotted Lanternfly Training for Businesses online has been completed?

It may take two to three weeks for a business to receive permits. The Completion Certificate in the course serves as a temporary permit.

At the end of the Spotted Lanternfly online course, follow the instructions to print the Certificate of Completion.

- Click on the link to the “Progress” page in the tool bar or in the course text.
- Click on “View Certificate”.
- Print if desired.

I completed permit training. How do I get the permits for my vehicles?

You will receive a permit course follow up email with additional information from the Department of Agriculture after PDA receives your course registration from Penn State. A paper permit will be issued to you automatically and mailed to the address listed on your registration. The permit can then be copied and distributed to the drivers or into the vehicles the permittee is responsible for. The permit copy should be kept with the registration packet or in a permit book.

Am I able to provide this training for other businesses affected by the quarantine (of which I am not an employee, but a contractor)?

Each business should complete the permit process for themselves and ensure they are complying with the SLF Quarantine Order requirements. You could provide only the employee training with the understanding that you are not responsible for other compliance aspects.

Are there employee training resources available?

Penn State Extension has developed employee training PowerPoints and included them as a resource in the online course. A business representative can download these and use them to train fellow employees.

To find the employee training materials:

- Log into your PSU account.
- Click on My Account (upper right).
- In left-hand options, click Online Courses
- Under Spotted Lanternfly Permit Training, click on Go To Online Course (in blue box).
- In the Home tab, on the right-hand column under Training Materials. There are 5 PowerPoint files that can be downloaded and combined for one comprehensive training document.

If a business chooses to develop training, topics to include:

- Life cycle
- Risks of SLF movement, especially adults and egg masses

- What to look for at different times of the year
- What needs to be inspected
- Recordkeeping requirements

What are the documentation and recordkeeping requirements?

Recordkeeping of training, inspection of vehicles, control measures taken (such as vehicle washes, destruction of living lanternfly, etc.) and shipping records must be maintained for a minimum of two years. Examples of recordkeeping forms are available in the online permit course and on the [PDA SLF Quarantine](#) web page.

Does PDA have a specific format for a vehicle log? My business does not keep a vehicle log.

The template for vehicle inspections is up to you, as long as you can prove that you did your best to prevent the spread of this pest. If you can incorporate into existing checks, do so. Document the inspection was done and control measures taken if live SLF were found (such as vehicle washes, destruction of SLF, etc.).

Example driver checklist / inspection logs can be found as a resource in the online permit course and on the [PDA SLF Quarantine](#) web page.

Should businesses keep 2 years of vehicle logs in the truck, or can they be stored in a warehouse, at corporate, etc.?

Records should be turned into and kept by the person who registered for and completed the permit training.

Do drivers need to inspect their shipment at every stop within the quarantine zone, or just at the beginning and end of the delivery day within the quarantine zone?

Drivers should complete and log pre and post trip inspections. During the day, advise them to have situational awareness. For example: Drivers should conduct inspections/mitigations as needed through the work day, such as during swarming.

Are inspections required in winter?

After adults have died off in winter, clean equipment and conduct an SLF inspection. Remove any dead adults. Remove and destroy any egg masses. Document your efforts. No further inspections are required in the winter. Resume inspections in April when spring hatch begins.

New York's Notice of Rejection process.

New York issues Notice of Rejections for anything that is not in compliance with New York regulations including Spotted Lanternfly violations. NY has established an **Exterior Quarantine** to protect their state from SLF infestation. Notice of Rejections will be issued to non-SLF permitted trucks carrying cargo originating in the PA Quarantine. First offense is a warning. Subsequent offenses may be penalized at the discretion of the NY

State Ag and Markets Director. Any cargo carrying live SLF (any life stage) will be sent back to Pennsylvania.

If an inspector finds an egg mass in my shipment, what happens? Once the egg mass is removed, am I able to continue to make my delivery, or must the entire shipment be rejected and sent back? Once it's sent back, must it be destroyed, or can it be sold in the quarantine zone?

Once the egg mass is destroyed and the entire shipment has been re-inspected and no other life stages are found, the load may continue. The company will be notified of the find and request a review of BMP's and protocols to prevent movement again. A notation will be filed with PDA to see if the same company has repeated finds indicating a larger problem.

Where will inspections occur for the SLF permit? Will they be located at weigh-in and other inspection areas?

Inspections will take place at weigh in and other inspection stations.

How often will shipments/trucks be stopped?

Inspections will be conducted on a periodic basis as determined by PDA. Timing and frequency depend in part on the SLF life cycle and habits.

Who is doing the inspections, and what are they looking for? (Are they checking for permit compliance only, or are they also inspecting for SLF?)

PDA will conduct the inspections for SLF and work in cooperation with the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP). PSP may also check for violations under their authority.

How long can a driver expect the inspection process to take, if they are stopped?

Each verification check is unique based on truck and load type and time invested will vary accordingly.

What are the fines associated with not being in compliance with the required permit?

A citation matrix is in development.

The Pennsylvania [SLF Quarantine Order](#) Article VII lists the following:

- Criminal citation up to \$300 per violation.
- Civil penalty up to \$20,000 per violation.
- Revocation of permit or compliance agreement if PDA determines the holder has not complied.

If the quarantine counties are expanded, when will this announcement occur and how much time will businesses in the county be given to secure a certificate and train their employees?

Quarantine expansions are made public by the PA Department of Agriculture through press releases and in the PA Bulletin. A grace period will be given for businesses in newly quarantined areas. PDA understands the time and effort involved with compliance and will recognize the business' reasonable effort toward compliance.