



# EASTERN PLANT BOARD

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## Benefits of Eastern Plant Board (EPB) Membership

- Entitles the state to membership in the National Plant Board (NPB). The NPB is an organization of all US state plant regulatory agencies working together to ensure a wholesome and abundant supply of agricultural products.
- Important networking opportunities with colleagues to share experiences and learn from each other. Sometimes this results in sharing resources which has occurred related to the outbreaks of Asian longhorned beetle in NY and MA and emerald ash borer in MD.
- States can work collectively as a region to get issues elevated to the national level, providing a greater collective voice. The EPB was able to increase the awareness of the threat of hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA). Through the EPB work via the NPB the US Forest Service established a HWA management plan focusing on all regions of the country.
- Member states collaborate to bring uniformity to state plant pest regulations. The Japanese beetle Harmonization Plan, adopted in 1998 and last updated in 2004, is an example of a coordinated program that provides consistency in states' regulation of a plant pest that is no longer domestically regulated by USDA.
- The EPB member states can take advantage of funding available through the Interstate Plant Pest Control Compact (IPCC). The IPCC enables states to help deal with pest outbreaks in neighboring states that could impact their states.
- Participation in the annual meeting which not only attracts colleagues from other states, but from federal agencies, in particular USDA, and NAFTA trading partners. These meetings provide a forum to discuss issues of concern to have a voice at the federal level.
- Members have opportunities to provide representation from the EPB on a number of national committees. These provide opportunities to network with federal agency staff particularly within USDA. Currently members participate on committees dealing with revising federal compliance agreements to regulatory treatments for Japanese beetle.

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### Member States

Connecticut • Delaware • Maine • Maryland • Massachusetts • New Hampshire  
New Jersey • New York • Pennsylvania • Rhode Island • Vermont • West Virginia