The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is making available to the public an environmental assessment regarding eradication activities for the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) in the area of Boston. Anyone wishing to obtain a copy of the document should contact Theresa Rice at Theresa.Rice@aphis.usda.gov, or 4700 River Road, Unit 26, Riverdale, MD 20737, or follow the link below to the document at the following website: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/ea/index.shtml. A copy can also be obtained through the Massachusetts ALB Cooperative Eradication Program Office at the following address: USDA-APHIS-PPQ ALB, 1208 VFW Parkway Suite 201, Boston, MA 02132 or USDA-APHIS-PPQ ALB, 151 West Boylston Drive, Worcester, MA 01606.

Interested persons should request the document entitled, “Asian Longhorned Beetle Cooperative Eradication Program in Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk Counties, Massachusetts, March 2011.” Anyone wishing to comment on the document should send comments to the address of Theresa Rice (please see above) by May 7, 2011. Any comments received will be considered and may result in changes to the proposed program. Once all comments are received and considered, a final determination will be made available at the website listed above. For general questions concerning the Asian longhorned beetle, please contact Rhonda Santos, USDA-APHIS Legislative and Public Affairs, at (508) 852-8044.