



# New York Residents: Check Your Boxwoods for the Box Tree Moth!

The box tree moth (*Cydalima perspectalis*) is an invasive pest that can kill boxwoods if left unchecked. We need your help to keep it from spreading. Here's what to look for:

**Brown Leaves and Defoliation** (look for missing sections of leaves or skeletonized leaves)



Healthy



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Partially Infested



Heavily Infested

**Caterpillars and Webbing** (young caterpillars hide among twigs/leaves, can grow to 1.5")



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**Frass**  
(sawdust-like insect excrement)



**Pupa**  
(may be wrapped in webbing)



**Adult Moths**  
(hard to spot; most active at night)



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# Do Your Part To Stop the Box Tree Moth

## 1. Find and Report

If you live **outside Niagara County** and find any signs of infestation, take a picture and report it online at <https://arcg.is/1Df8Se> or scan the QR code.



If you live **inside Niagara County**, you don't need to report your findings. But keep checking regularly for this pest to protect your boxwoods.

## 2. Cooperate With Agriculture Officials

Agriculture officials may ask for permission to access your property so we can visually inspect your boxwood plants or place box tree moth traps. Please cooperate with us! This work is important to stop the spread.



## 3. Protect Your Boxwoods

Remove infested branches or, for heavy infestations, cut the boxwood from its base (it should grow back from its roots). Discard all boxwood debris by double-bagging it in plastic and putting it with your household trash.

For more information, and a list of insecticides known to be effective against destructive caterpillars, go to [www.aphis.usda.gov/planthealth/box-tree-moth](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/planthealth/box-tree-moth) (click on "Resources"). You can also contact your County Cooperative Extension office ([cals.cornell.edu/cornell-cooperative-extension/local-offices](http://cals.cornell.edu/cornell-cooperative-extension/local-offices)) for treatment options specific to your needs:

**Niagara County:** (716) 433-8839, [niagara@cornell.edu](mailto:niagara@cornell.edu)

**Erie County:** (716) 652-5400, [erie@cornell.edu](mailto:erie@cornell.edu)

**Orleans County:** (585) 798-4265, [orleans@cornell.edu](mailto:orleans@cornell.edu)

**Genesee County:** (585) 343-3040, [genesee@cornell.edu](mailto:genesee@cornell.edu)

## Questions?

Call the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) at 1-800-249-2363.