

## UPDATE: Expanded box tree moth interior quarantine in effect

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) implemented the initial box tree moth (BTM) interior quarantine on April 1, 2023 for all of Lenawee and Washtenaw counties and portions of Jackson and Monroe counties to prevent the spread of the box tree moth (*Cydalima perspectalis*), a new invasive insect pest that has destroyed an estimated 75 percent of boxwoods in Europe. Based on new detections, the quarantine has been expanded to 10 counties: Clinton, Eaton, Ingham, Livingston, Oakland, Jackson, Washtenaw, Wayne, Lenawee, and Monroe, which went into effect July 31, 2023.

Movement of regulated articles (*Buxus* plant material — live or dead — and box tree moths) from a location *inside* the regulated area to a location *outside* the regulated area is prohibited. Movement of regulated articles within the regulated area is prohibited, with the following exceptions:

- Movement of regulated articles from *inside* the regulated area to another location *inside* the regulated area is prohibited unless the firm is under a written compliance agreement issued by the director of MDARD.
- Movement of *Buxus* yard waste from *inside* the regulated area to another location *inside* the regulated area is allowed, but only if:
  - The destination site has no *Buxus* within 100 yards.
  - The waste is enclosed in a sealable covering material (e.g., plastic, canvas, etc.), trailer body, or vehicle while being transported (March through October only).

Transporting *Buxus* nursery stock through the quarantine area is allowed if it originated from *outside* the regulated area. During the high-risk period (March through October), the following requirements apply:

- No *Buxus* nursery stock is allowed to be added to the shipment while inside the regulated area.
- The shipment should be safeguarded. The shipment must be enclosed inside a sealable covering material, trailer body or vehicle in a manner that prevents the unintentional introduction of the box tree moth.
- The shipment must be transported directly through the quarantine area without stopping (except for refueling and when traffic conditions call for it).
- Regulated articles transported through the quarantine area must be accompanied by documents clearly identifying the place of origin.

**Note:** There are no restrictions on movement of regulated articles into the quarantine area if the above stipulations are met.

If you suspect you have found an infestation, please take photographs and report it at [www.Michigan.gov/ReportBTM](http://www.Michigan.gov/ReportBTM). Please notify officials before spraying or disposing of the suspected infestation. Once an infestation is confirmed, you will receive instructions on how to handle the infested plant material.

For more information about box tree moth, visit [Michigan's box tree moth website](#).