

HWA Winter Hikes January-February, 2025

Join AOA's stewardship team this winter as we hike our Hocking Hills Preserve forests looking for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid infestations that are now plaguing this region. Hemlock Woolly Adelgids (HWA) are small non-native insects that are a severe threat to our native Eastern Hemlocks found on AOA conservation sites across the Hocking Hills region. Last year, AOA found its first confirmed case of HWA on our preservation lands. Treatment is ongoing at this site.



Wintertime monitoring of hemlock trees is the best way to catch an infestation of HWA before it spreads further and kills the hemlock stands on our Preserves. We can cover considerably more ground with your help. Our goals this season will be to visit four AOA Preserve sites that have not yet been monitored and develop a treatment plan for any positive cases of HWA found.

We are scheduling winter monitoring hikes to several Preserves in the Hocking Hills. If you are interested in participating in AOA's HWA winter monitoring hikes and would like to receive more information regarding event details, **please use the link below.**

HWA & Volunteer List Sign Up:

<https://forms.gle/KkDkwDJqKz6dMyDc8>

Required Items: Proper hiking footwear, water, weather appropriate outerwear.

Optional Items: Walking stick, lunch, magnifying glass for ID purposes

Please Note: We will be hiking over potentially steep and uneven terrain. Come Prepared!

Thank you for your continued support of AOA's mission, and we look forward to seeing you out in the field.