

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Ohio Department of Agriculture will hold a public hearing for the purpose of accepting testimony on the proposed amendments made to Chapter 901:5-58 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

The rules contained in this chapter establish a quarantine against the highly destructive insect *Pityophthorus juglandis*, more commonly known as the Walnut twig beetle (hereinafter “WTB” or “plant pest”) and the associated disease known as thousand cankers disease. The Ohio Department of Agriculture (Department) established this quarantine to prevent the plant pest’s artificial spread in the state of Ohio in order to protect Ohio’s forest, timber and wildlife resources from this destructive pest. The rules contained in this package focus on science-based practices which support responsible agriculture practices while allowing Ohio to continue to grow its vital forest economy.

The hearing will be held on:

April 26, 2018 at 9:00 A.M.

**Ohio Department of Agriculture
Bromfield Administration Building
Hearing Room 133 (Seminar “B”)
8995 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-3399.**

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 119 of the Revised Code. Any person affected by the no change rule package may appear and be heard in person, by his attorney, or both, may present his position, arguments, or contentions, orally or in writing, offer and examine witnesses, and present evidence tending to show that the no change rule package, if adopted or effectuated, will be unreasonable or unlawful.

More information on the rule package, including a business impact analysis and copies of the rules, can be found at <http://www.agri.ohio.gov/proposedrules/proposedrules.aspx> or by visiting the Register of Ohio at www.registerofohio.state.oh.us.

Any person who wishes to present his position, arguments, or contentions in writing, other than at the public hearing, may do so by either mailing his or her written comments to the Ohio Department of Agriculture, c/o Legal Section, 8995 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068; by email at ecomments@agri.ohio.gov, or by transmitting by facsimile at (614) 995-4585. Written comments sent by mail shall be postmarked no later than the day of the hearing. Written comments transmitted by facsimile shall be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the hearing.

