

Station 8: Hemlock

The eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) is a common tree species in Hayes Woods. The Eastern hemlock is a conifer that reaches 50-80 feet in height, has dark green needles, and rough reddish-brown bark.

The woolly adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*) is an invasive insect that poses a significant threat to the eastern hemlock. Woolly adelgid infestations are identifiable by the white cottony masses the tiny insects form at the base of the hemlock's needles. The woolly adelgid feeds on the sap of hemlock trees, which weakens them over time. Heavily infested trees may die within a few years. Hemlocks are critical to forest ecosystems, providing shade, habitat, and food for wildlife. Loss of the eastern hemlock populations will cause significant change in the forest ecosystems of Hayes Woods.



Woolly Adelgid on Eastern Hemlock



Eastern Hemlock