## Help Protect & Understand Western PA's Ecosystems!

### Use iNaturalist & iMapInvasives to Make a Difference

Western Pennsylvania is home to an incredible diversity of plants, fungi, and wildlife—but it's also facing challenges from invasive species and habitat changes. By using free citizen science apps like **iNaturalist** and **iMapInvasives**, you can contribute valuable data that helps researchers and conservationists protect our region's ecosystems.

#### **Why Your Observations Matter**

#### **Manage Invasive Species**

The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) is threatening our hemlock forests. Reporting sightings of HWA on iMapInvasives helps scientists track its spread and plan control efforts before more trees are lost.

#### **Support Native Biodiversity**

Western PA has scattered populations of pawpaw trees (Asimina triloba), but we still don't fully understand their genetic diversity. Mapping where they grow can help ecologists study their resilience and potential for conservation.

# Contribute to Scientific Research

Every plant, fungi, or wildlife observation on iNaturalist adds to a growing database used by researchers worldwide. Even common species data helps track population trends over time.





**INaturalist** 

*i*MapInvasives