

# Help DEC Track Beech Leaf Disease

## Report Sightings Using New York iMapInvasives

**Beech leaf disease (BLD)** can affect all beech tree species. It is associated with a nematode (worm), *Litylenchus crenatae mccannii*. BLD can kill mature beech trees in 6–10 years and young trees in as little as 2–3 years. Currently, there is no known way to manage it.

BLD has only been discovered in recent years and much about it is still unknown. DEC is collecting information on symptomatic beech trees to learn more about this disease and its distribution in New York. You can help!



## What to Look For



**Striping**



**Curling or leathery texture**



**Darkened stripes in canopy**

BLD symptoms appear in the leaves and include striping, curling, or a leathery texture. These signs may be visible year-round, as some beech trees may hold their leaves in winter. Stripes are most noticeable on the underside of leaves and you may see them by looking up into the canopy or holding branches up to the light. Eventually, affected leaves wither, dry, and yellow.

## How to Report



Download the free **iMapInvasives** app on your GPS-enabled smartphone or device. Use the app to submit a report and help us monitor BLD and other forest health issues in New York State.

If you do not have a smart device or iMap account, you can provide photos and location information to DEC at:

 [foresthealth@dec.ny.gov](mailto:foresthealth@dec.ny.gov)

 **1-866-640-0652**

For more info on BLD, visit  
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/120589.html>



**Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation**