

Pine Beetle Control
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How do I keep pine beetles out of my trees? There is no simple answer to this problem. Pine trees weakened from injury, drought etc. will attract beetles. There is no chemical we can use to kill beetles once they are in the tree. The best method is to prevent the beetles from attacking our trees.

Pine beetles can detect an injured tree and can then fly to it and infect it. Prevent tree injury. Do not prune pines in the spring and summer when beetles will be attracted to the sap coming from pruning cuts. If trees are injured, spray wounds with Bifenthrin every three weeks or so. Do not try to remove the sap or coat the wound with pruning paint. Read and follow all label directions when using pesticides.

Keep the tree in good health. If the soil gets very dry, water the tree with three-quarter to one inch of water once a week. Do not water more often than this. Do not dig around trees or drive over or pile soil on their roots.

If pine trees die, remove them very quickly since pines quickly become a risk to fall. If you have some trees that need to be removed, consider removing other pines in the area that are damaged, oozing sap, have cankers or are infested with beetles. Pine beetle control is very difficult. See this site for more information on keeping these 'little foxes' out of your trees - <http://www.barkbeetles.org/pbb/pbbpub.html>