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### **“STOP IN THE NAME OF LOVE” AND KEEP THE GLASSY-WINGED SHARPSHOOTER OUT OF NAPA COUNTY**

#### ***Campaign kicks off with Sharpshooter Awareness Month***

**NAPA, Calif.** — The Napa County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office is asking county residents and landscapers to “Stop in the Name of Love” when they think about purchasing plants at nurseries outside the county and bringing them home.

“Think it over,” says Dave Whitmer, Napa County Agricultural Commissioner, “if you love Napa County, then help us keep out the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter by purchasing your plants from certified retailers in Napa County.” All plant retailers inside Napa County are in compliance with the Agricultural Commissioner’s Office strict inspection program.

“If the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter ever gets into Napa County, most likely it will not be on commercial grape or nursery stock shipments, but in the car of a gardener who has bought a plant elsewhere, or in the back of the truck of a landscaper who has individually purchased plants outside of the county.”

The annual campaign marks a change from past ones that focused on identifying the pest, with only billboards telling drivers not to bring plants into the county. “This time the whole campaign—ads, radio spots, billboards—is about stopping the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter in the name of love,” says Whitmer.

May is Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter Awareness Month in Napa County. The annual campaign aims to raise awareness about the real dangers of the insect and the potentially devastating impact it could have on the region’s beauty and economy. The campaign will run throughout the month of May and September in a variety of local publications, on the radio, and on billboards around the county.

The county has found three viable egg masses on incoming nursery stock in the last 12 months, so there’s good reason to keep the level of awareness high, says Whitmer. “We’re still very concerned about the threat this insect poses to Napa County, and we must remain diligent until a viable solution for Pierce’s Disease is found.”

For more information about the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter, call 866-BUG-SPOT or log on to [www.bugspot.org](http://www.bugspot.org).

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