

A Bug's Life

Elm leaf beetle

Xanthogaleruca luteola

Fun facts

- Most serious defoliator of elm in US
- Damage makes tree susceptible to Dutch elm disease
- Adults may overwinter in homes

Host plants

- All elm trees, especially Siberian elm

Identification

Damage: Leaves with small holes, skeletonization from underside, leaves look lacy, brown and drop

Eggs: Orange spindle-shaped on underside of leaves

Larva: Black when young and change to dull yellow with stripes

Identification continued...

Adult: Yellow to olive green color, 4 black spots behind head, dark stripe on margin of each wing cover

Management

- None recommended unless a tree has history of regular outbreaks
- Consider calling certified arborist

