

You're Invited!

Mountain Pine Beetle Open House

October 12, 2016 • 2:00 - 8:00 pm

The Town of Hinton, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and West Fraser are hosting an open house from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at the Hinton Community Centre about Mountain Pine Beetle. Coffee and snacks will be available.

Background: Mountain Pine Beetle is an insect with the potential to devastate landscapes. A large MPB outbreak started in British Columbia in the early 1990s. Since that time the insect has killed about 50% of the total volume of commercial lodgepole pine in that province. While isolated records of MPB had been noted in Alberta before, it was the massive migration of beetles into Alberta from outbreaks in British Columbia in 2006 that has since fueled the spread in this province.

Right now, in the Hinton and Jasper area, we are seeing the largest populations of live beetles to date. Two warm winters in a row have helped to exacerbate this problem. This is very concerning as these insects have the ability to kill millions of pine trees in a short amount of time.



Please join us at this open house, where there will be:

- Information about the mountain pine beetle (MPB) including its life cycle and how to identify it.
- West Fraser representatives with current plans for addressing MPB including potential harvesting plans for areas in close proximity to Hinton.
- Representatives from the Government of Alberta who will have current maps showing the results of the latest MPB population surveys.
- Representatives from the fRI Research who will be there to discuss research related to MPB.
- Representatives from the Town of Hinton.
- Representatives from Yellowhead County.
- Historical information on MPB spread since 2006
- People able to identify MPB attacked trees (bring pictures if you think you have a tree that may have been attacked)

If you are at all concerned about MPB; want to know how to identify it; or, want to see and hear about the company's and the government's MPB plans, then please show up at this open house and talk with us, provide feedback and ask questions.

If you have any questions about this open house, please contact Aaron Jones via email (aaron.jones@westfraser.com) or phone (780-865-8974).

