

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

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Release Date: January 15, 2016

Public television airdates: Arbor Day, 2016. Check local stations listings for exact times and dates.

Film Distributor: Bullfrog Films www.bullfrogfilms.com/catalog/tnt.html

***Trees in Trouble* Highlights Challenges of Invasive Insects to America's Communities**

Trees in Trouble, a groundbreaking new documentary film which follows the story of how one community in Southwest Ohio grapples with invasive insects devouring their trees, will be released for national distribution and broadcast. A national public television airdate is set for April 29th, Arbor Day, 2016.

Produced by award-winning filmmaker Andrea Torrice, ***Trees in Trouble*** weaves together urban forestry history, policy issues and science with personal stories. The film explores how people on the frontlines -- public officials, citizens, business leaders, scientists, arborists and others -- battle invasive insects such as emerald ash borer and Asian longhorn beetle.

"America's urban forests are under threat from exotic invasive insects and diseases," says community forest consultant Jennifer Gulick. *"The problems are being introduced now at an accelerated rate because of globalization, worldwide shipping and mass transportation."* Without local predators to keep them in check, foreign insects and diseases overtake native species and create havoc in ecosystems.

"The United States will lose all its ash trees within the next decade," says Dan Herms PhD, professor of entomology at the Ohio State University. *"If you don't have emerald ash borer or another invasive pest in your community yet, get ready. They are on their way."*

Trees in Trouble also points towards solutions communities can take to protect native trees such as increased monitoring and public awareness and offers hope for the future.

"I made the film to help communities figure out ways to respond to these new pests," says Torrice. *"The film raises important questions about how we value trees, and shows how one community reexamined all the benefits trees provide."*

Accompanying the film are viewer and educator materials, relevant articles and resources, and video updates.

Trees in Trouble was made possible through the support from the Ohio Humanities Council, Stephen H. Wilder Foundation, Craig Young Family Foundation and the TREE Fund. It is a project of the Center for Independent Documentary and the Media Working Group.

For more information about obtaining a copy of the film, community screenings and broadcasts, please contact Torrice Media at 513- 751-7050.

Trees in Trouble Press Kit: http://www.treesintrouble.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Press_Kit.zip

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