

**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](http://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 29<sup>th</sup>, 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](http://www.treesintrouble.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Press_Kit.zip)

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