

Public Notice of Pesticide Use for Gypsy Moth Control

The City of Burlington will be using a low-flying helicopter to aerial spray a bio-pesticide over four parks and wooded trail areas to control gypsy moth populations from eating leaves which causes significant defoliation and long-term impact to the City's urban forest.

The areas include:

- City View Park
- LaSalle Park
- Kilbride Park
- Zimmerman Park

Maps are available at burlington.ca/gypsymoth

The spray program will occur over two days between May 10th and June 10th, 2021. The exact dates and time for the aerial spray are weather dependent. The City will provide up-to-date details on this page and through Twitter and Facebook once the dates have been confirmed. Actual Spray dates will be posted on the City's Twitter and Facebook accounts @CityBurlington and online at burlington.ca/gypsymoth at least 48-hours before the spraying. Residents who would like a phone call or email prior to spray are invited to call Service Burlington at 1-877-213-3609.

The City's contractor will be applying a **Class B** pesticide, Foray 48B Biological Insecticide Aqueous Suspension, REGISTRATION NO. 24977 under the PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS ACT, with active ingredient *Bacillus thuringiensis* subspecies 'kurstaki'.

Application of the pesticide will be completed between 5 and 7:30 a.m.

Individuals who have concerns should take reasonable precautions to avoid exposure during a spray program in the same way they would avoid pollen or other airborne materials during days when air quality advisories are issued. Residents can also reduce exposure by staying indoors with windows and doors shut during the spray period if spraying is taking place in their area, although this is not required by health officials.

About Gypsy Moth

European Gypsy moth, *Lymantria dispar*, is an introduced pest that impacts trees when larvae emerge in the spring and the caterpillars feed on leaves causing defoliation. Oaks are their preferred tree species.

As part of Burlington's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program, Forestry staff **and private consultants evaluate** sites across the City each year. They run egg-mass surveys to determine areas that need action because the natural processes can no longer maintain pest population levels on their own. Although healthy trees can generally survive defoliation several years in a row, trees which are already in distress from problems such as acute drought, compacted soils, diseases or other pests, may decline and die. Generally, healthy trees which are defoliated in spring, will leaf out again by fall. Gypsy moth populations tend to be cyclical, with peaks every 8-12 years, followed by dramatic population decline of the pest.

For residents who have questions or concerns including exact aerial spray dates (when known), please contact Kyle **McLoughlin**, Supervisor of Forest Planning and Health at kyle.mcloughlin@burlington.ca or 905-333-6166, ext. 6145, collect calls will be accepted.