

BAND TOGETHER

Help control the cankerworm population



Cankerworms are native leaf-eating caterpillars who can cause widespread leaf damage, particularly to oak trees. Damage in 2017 was significant, and the populations of these caterpillars are still expected to peak. Creating a “Sticky Band” around your trees can help reduce their population and help keep our urban trees and forests healthy.

Free Sticky Banding Demonstration

Residents are encouraged to visit any of the locations listed to learn how to create a Sticky Band and speak to a forestry expert.

- LaSalle Park, 50 North Shore Blvd. W. By the playground: Monday, Oct. 22, 2018, 10 a.m.
- Mountainside Park, 2205 Mount Forest Dr. East of the Swimming Pool: Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2018, 10 a.m.
- Sherwood Forest Community Centre, 5270 Fairview St. Parking Lot entrance: Wednesday, Oct. 24, 2018, 10 a.m.
- Forestvale Park, 1165 Westhaven Dr.: Thursday, Oct. 25, 2018, 6 p.m.
- Central Park, 2299 New St. By the rear baseball diamond: Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018, 10 a.m.

How to create a Sticky Band

1. Wrap a 10 to 15 cm wide strip of insulation or cotton batting around the trunk of the tree you are going to be banding, about 1.5 m (five feet) off the ground.
2. Cover the insulation or quilt batting with plastic wrap or a garbage bag. Allow several inches of plastic above and below the insulation.
3. Tape the plastic to the tree with duct tape or packing tape. Please do not use nails or staples to attach the plastic to the tree as this will injure the tree.
4. Spread a layer of a sticky substance, such as Tanglefoot™ or similar product as directed, on the plastic. This will make the cankerworms stick to the band.
5. Inspect the sticky material regularly and remove leaves and other debris and reapply sticky material if required.
6. Bands should be removed by late spring and reapplied in the fall. It is important to remove the bands to prevent damage or discoloration of the bark.

How to identify Fall Cankerworm



Egg Mass

Photo: M. Kettler



Feeding Caterpillars

Photo: Thomas Wilson



Wingless Adult Female

Photo: Bonnie Ott