



Hamilton

INFORMATION UPDATE

To:	Mayor Eisenberger and Members of Council		
From:	Bryan Shynal, B.Sc., B.L.A. Director of Operations & Maintenance Public Works Department	Telephone: Facsimile: E-mail:	905.546.2424, ext. 4622 905.546.3972 bshynal@hamilton.ca
Date:	May 15, 2008		
Re:	Gypsy Moth Aerial Spray Program (GMASP08-02)		

This update confirms the status of the gypsy moth aerial spray program and the communications plan developed to educate and notify residents as delivered by the Division's Forestry and Horticulture Section and Public Works staff.

Gypsy Moth Aerial Spray Program

A total of 1,889 ha will be aerial sprayed based on egg mass surveying performed prior to and following Council's directive to staff to receive public input. Following additional surveying, 855 ha in the rural areas and 1,034 ha in urban areas were identified as meeting the threshold required to spray.

Additional areas that were identified subsequent to Council's final program approval are not included in the 2008 aerial spray program; however, the areas have been noted and will be monitored for egg mass density this winter.

BioForest Technologies Inc. has been monitoring egg hatch and host tree development to determine the most effective date to begin the spray program. The spraying program is scheduled to start on Saturday, May 17th dependant on the weather conditions. Where Transport Canada requires the use of a twin-engine helicopter over the urban areas, it is anticipated that it will take four to five days to complete one spray application. The second application will then follow.

Gypsy Moth Control Communications Plan

The City of Hamilton's Public Works staff has led the development of communications strategies and tactics in collaboration with Hamilton Conservation Authority and Royal Botanical Gardens. The communications strategy has been developed in coordination with neighbouring municipalities and authorities (City of Burlington, Regional Municipality of Halton and Conservation Halton).

The goal of the Gypsy Moth Control in Hamilton is to ensure audiences are effectively informed and educated regarding:

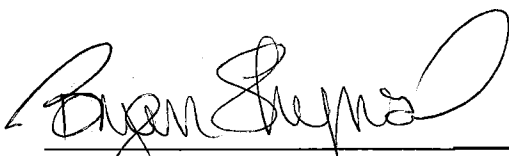
- The current status of the Gypsy Moth infestation in the City of Hamilton,
- Council's decision regarding the treatment method,
- Implementation of the treatment in the affected areas, and;
- Options for property owners to help control the spread of Gypsy Moths on private property.

To this end, the following communications tactics have been employed:

- Gypsy Moth Web site (www.hamilton.ca/gypsymoth)
- Gypsy Moth telephone information line (905 540-5618)
- Open Houses (Glanbrook, April 15th; Ancaster, April 16th; Dundas, April 17th; Flamborough, April 22nd) which were advertised on the City Web site, Gypsy Moth Web site and in the respective community newspapers.
- Gypsy Moth booklet
- Btk pamphlet
- Maps and information posters (used at the Open Houses then displayed at the Municipal Service Centres and Westdale Library)
- Four page Residents' Guide to Gypsy Moth Control insert in the community newspapers (May 2)
- Pesticide Notice (Hamilton Spectator At Your Service page May 2nd & 9th)
- Notice to Residents flyer delivered by Canada Post May 5th & 6th

Prior to and during the spray application days, news and traffic bulletins will be published on the Gypsy Moth Web site and on the Gypsy Moth Telephone Information Line. In addition, Public Works staff has established a spray day telephone notification service for residents who have particular concerns about the application of the biological pesticide spraying over their home and wish to be notified in advance of the application.

Should you require further information please contact Mike McNamara at 905-546-2424, ext. 3919.



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Director of Operations & Maintenance
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Copy to:

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