



## St. Clair County Spongy Moth (Gypsy Moth) Program - 2022 Aerial Spray Program FAQ's

### **Will my property be sprayed?**

Spray areas and maps are not yet final; these will be completed by mid-March. Property owners who are included in spray areas will be notified by mail in late March. Maps of spray areas will be provided to municipalities and posted on the county website in late March. St. Clair County is covering the spray costs for qualified residential properties for 2022.

### **What if I don't want my property to be sprayed?**

Property owners will be given a chance to opt out of spray areas. Opt out instructions will be provided with notification letters. Opt out forms must be returned in order to be excluded from the spray areas.

### **What if I want my property to be sprayed and I am not included in a spray area?**

There are many reasons why a property may not be included in the spray program. Examples include: Field surveys showed not enough egg masses or not enough tree canopy, area was not large enough to spray, or a caterpillar complaint was not reported. We will provide a list of licensed contractors who can assist with control, as well as a list of do-it-yourself methods to help provide relief to those not included in a spray area.

### **What if I want my property to be sprayed and I didn't report my caterpillar issues?**

While it is too late to be included in the 2022 spray program, please be sure to report any caterpillars you see from May through July using our on-line survey at [www.stclaircounty.org/Caterpillars/CaterpillarsSurvey.aspx](http://www.stclaircounty.org/Caterpillars/CaterpillarsSurvey.aspx).

### **When will the spraying occur?**

Spraying will be done by a licensed aerial applicator and will occur in late May-early June. The spray is weather-dependent, requires enough leaves on the trees, and small enough caterpillars.

### **Is the spray harmful to other pollinators, animals, plants or people?**

No, the Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) spray used is not toxic to people, pets, pollinators, bees, plants, trees, etc. The spray is applied to the tree leaves and kills the caterpillars when they ingest the Bt by feeding on the leaves.

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### **Links and contact information**

Friends of the St. Clair River Spongy Moth (Gypsy Moth) page: [www.scriver.org/gypsymoth](http://www.scriver.org/gypsymoth)

Email: [gypsymoth@stclaircounty.org](mailto:gypsymoth@stclaircounty.org)

Report Spongy Moth (Gypsy Moth) caterpillars at the St. Clair County online survey

[www.stclaircounty.org/Caterpillars/CaterpillarsSurvey.aspx](http://www.stclaircounty.org/Caterpillars/CaterpillarsSurvey.aspx)