



2022 NOTICE OF AERIAL SPRAYING
FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF SPONGY MOTH
LARVAE IN SELECTED AREAS OF THE CITY OF
KENTWOOD

Select areas in the City of Kentwood are scheduled to receive aerial application of the insecticide *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) for the suppression of Spongy (formerly gypsy) Moth larvae. Additional information and maps of these areas are available online at www.kentwood.us/moths or at the City Clerk's office, Kentwood City Hall, 4900 Breton Ave. SE.

The Bt brand will be Foray 76B (or equivalent) supplied by Valent Biosciences Corporation. The applicator for the program is Hamilton Helicopters, Inc., 4488 134th Ave., Hamilton, MI 49419, 616.291.5808. The spraying will be done by aircraft when weather conditions are suitable. The exact dates cannot be predetermined as application is weather dependent. Startup is tentatively planned for mid May or June 2022.

The insecticide Bt is derived from a naturally occurring bacteria and is known only to affect caterpillars of moths and butterflies that are actively feeding at the time of treatment. It does not affect honeybees or other non-leaf eating insects, birds, fish or mammals. The Bt is applied at a quart per acre in a very fine mist that targets the trees. The carrier liquid is water and drying usually takes place within fifteen minutes to an hour depending on relative humidity.

Information related to the spongy moth treatment is available on the City's website at www.kentwood.us/moths and updates will also be provided on the City's Facebook page. Under the information heading, you will find articles with the answers to many common questions regarding safety and efficacy.

The contact for the Spongy Moth Suppression Program is Mark Rambo, Deputy City Administrator, rambom@kentwood.us or 616.554.0770.