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From: WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection <datcp@service.govdelivery.com>

Sent: Friday, May 19, 2023 10:02 AM **To:** palmyratownclerk@centurylink.net

Subject: Spongy Moth Aerial Spraying in Chippewa, Dunn, Jefferson, Rusk and Walworth Counties



Wisconsin Spongy Moth Program



Spongy Moth Aerial Spraying Update

Spongy moth hotline: (800) 642-MOTH (6684)

Email: spongymoth@wisconsin.gov

What: Aerial spraying of BTK to treat for spongy moth (Lymantria dispar).

When: Monday, May 22nd and Tuesday, May 23rd, weather permitting.

Spraying can start as early as sunrise and continue until the day's plan is complete and as weather conditions allow. Aerial spraying requires calm winds, high humidity, and no precipitation. The yellow planes are loud and will fly low, just above the tree canopy. Pets or livestock may be frightened by the noise of the low-flying planes, so keep them indoors or monitor them.

Where: WIDATCP plans to spray in Chippewa, Dunn, and Rusk Counties. WIDNR plans to spray in Jefferson County at Big Foot Beach State Park and Walworth

County at Kettle Moraine State Forest - Southern Unit. You can view a progress chart and maps of treatment sites at http://smaerialspray.wi.gov.

Why: Treating for spongy moth is necessary to control the spread of this destructive and invasive pest that feeds on the leaves of oaks, maples, crabapple, birch, and many other species of trees and shrubs.

Plan details: The first BTK treatments will begin in the counties listed above covering thirteen sites. Most sites will receive a second application of BTK about 7–10 days after the first application.

Product: Planes will apply Foray 48B, which is approved for use in certified organic production or food processing by the Organic Materials Review Institute. The insecticide contains *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* or BTK. It is a naturally occurring soil bacterium that is poisonous to spongy moth caterpillars when consumed. BTK breaks down in sunlight within a few days. Spraying does not affect organic certification.

The insecticide is not toxic to people, bees, animals, birds, or plants. People who have allergies may wish to stay indoors or leave the area until treatments are done.

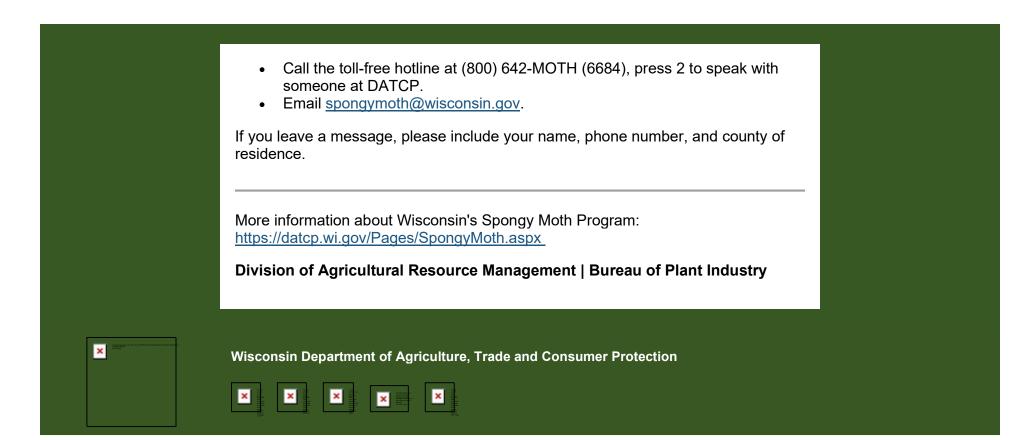
More information:

To learn more about the Spongy Moth Program, visit https://smaerialspray.wi.gov or visit the spongy moth portal at https://spongymoth.wi.gov/.

To find out daily treatment plan updates, you can do any of the following:

- Call the toll-free hotline at (800) 642-MOTH (6684), press 1 for a recorded message of the up-to-date treatment plan.
- Connect with us on Twitter (http://twitter.com/widatcp) or Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/widatcp).
- Subscribe to receive spongy moth email updates at https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDATCP/subscriber/new.

If you have questions, you can contact program staff through any of the following:



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