

## **Commonsense Precautions to Take if in a Treatment Area During Spraying**

The insecticide being used on residential properties to treat Gypsy Moth in York County is *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt), a biological insecticide which has no known adverse human health or environmental impacts. The insecticide will be applied by aircraft, either helicopter or fixed wing, flying approximately 50 feet above the treetops. Spraying will generally take place between dawn and 11a.m. (under 60 to 65 degrees). It will not take place under windy or rainy conditions, but can take place on weekends or holidays. In 2008 spray activities took place during the first week in May. It is anticipated that that is the time, give or take a week, that spray activities will take place in 2009. The time will not be announced until mid to late April since it depends on the rate of emergence of the caterpillars and the rate of leaf development in the favored species, generally oaks. Watch papers and the Gypsy Moth Suppression website for updates in late April. **Only those individuals on the Hypersensitivity registry list, schools or those with medical issues who have been notified that they are in a spray block and notify the Gypsy Moth Program Coordinator will receive notification about the day their area will be treated.**

To avoid the possibility of eye irritation, persons should not look up as the spray cloud is descending. If eye irritation does occur, an eye wash should be used and the family physician consulted. If the material gets on the skin, soap and water are sufficient to remove it.

Keep windows closed during the spraying. Although it should not harm them, you may wish to bring pets inside. Please notify this office if you have special medical problems or have a daycare in your home and are in a spray block.

To make spot removal as easy as possible, vehicles which are exposed to the spray deposit should be washed as soon as possible

Diane Oleson  
Coordinator, Gypsy Moth Suppression Program  
112 Pleasant Acres Rd.  
York, PA 17402  
Phone: 717-840-7429  
Email djo13@psu.edu