

APPENDIX A
June 2015
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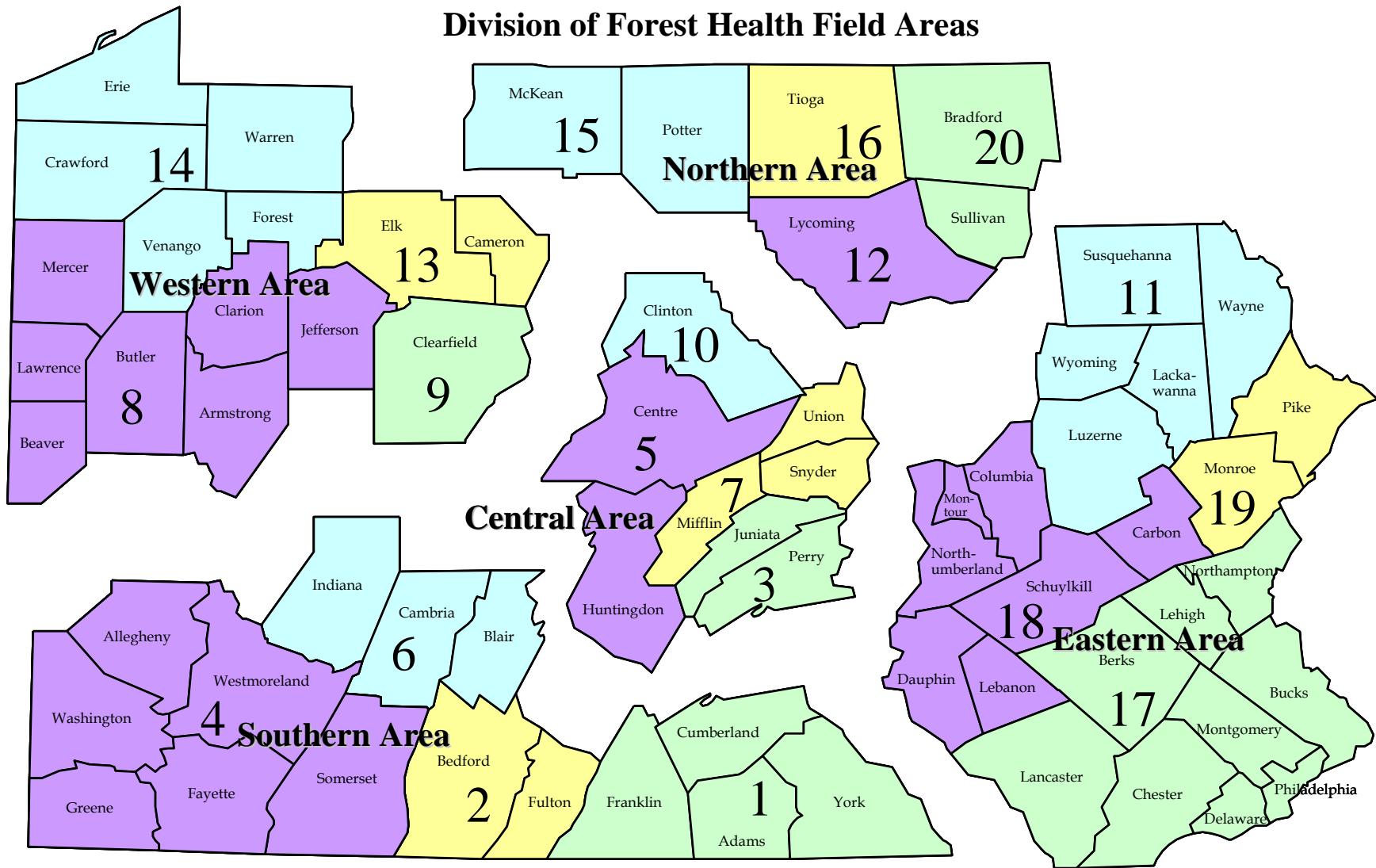
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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
 Bureau of Forestry
**Bureau of Forestry Forest Districts
 and
 Division of Forest Health Field Areas**



APPENDIX B

BT Insecticide Information Bulletin

Bacillus thuringiensis Berliner (Bt) is a naturally occurring rod-shaped bacterium that causes disease in certain insect larvae. One variety of this organism affects the larvae of many moths and butterflies while other varieties affect fly and beetle larvae. Strains of the variety *kurstaki* are grown under controlled conditions and are then formulated into a biological insecticide for control of many forest and agricultural pests, including the gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*).

Formulations of Bt registered by EPA for gypsy moth control contain dormant bacterial spores along with crystals of a toxic protein, called delta-endotoxin, that the bacteria produce. Gypsy moth caterpillars (larvae) must eat these spores and crystals for the Bt to work. Once eaten, the crystals dissolve in the alkaline gut of the caterpillar and cause paralysis of the digestive system. Feeding usually ceases at this point. Cells in the gut wall then break down allowing dormant spores to invade the body cavity. If the caterpillar has not died by this time, the spores germinate and multiply in the body cavity causing a lethal infection. In small larvae the action of the crystal alone is usually fatal, but in larger larvae it is the later infection by the spores that causes death.

Successful gypsy moth control with any insecticide depends on proper spray timing, good spray weather, and thorough spray coverage. Because Bt is a living organism subject to mortality-causing factors such as desiccation and ultraviolet light, its residual effect is much shorter than most chemical insecticides. As a result, timing, weather, coverage, and population level are more critical for Bt than for chemicals. Under ideal conditions, Bt remains active on the foliage of treated trees for 7-14 days and will kill the caterpillars that ingest it. Unfortunately, conditions are not always ideal and, as a result, larval control with Bt averages below 80 percent. Therefore, when gypsy moth populations are healthy and building, a single application of Bt cannot be consistently relied upon to give population reduction and total nuisance abatement. However, if the user is willing to accept limited defoliation and the associated caterpillars, Bt normally provides foliage protection (70+ percent) adequate to reduce tree stress and related mortality. Plus, it will do this with the highest known degree of safety to human health and the environment of any insecticide currently on the market.

Many formulations of Bt are currently registered by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for gypsy moth control and are sold under various trade names. FORAY® is one of the more common brands of Bt registered for use on forests and trees.

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION & NATURAL RESOURCES
BUREAU OF FORESTRY
DIVISION OF FOREST PEST MANAGEMENT
400 Market Street, 6th Floor, P.O. Box 8552
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552
(717) 783-2066

APPENDIX C

Gypchek® Insecticide Information Bulletin

The gypsy moth is subject to a variety of naturally occurring infectious diseases caused by several species of bacteria and fungi as well as a virus. The gypsy moth nucleopolyhedrosis virus (NPV) is often referred to as "wilt" due to the soft and limp appearance of diseased caterpillars. The disease can reach outbreak proportions as gypsy moth populations increase. The outbreak of the virus results from increased transmission rates, within and between generations of the gypsy moth, as small caterpillars become infected and die on leaves in the crowns of the trees. The caterpillar cadavers disintegrate and serve as inoculum for healthy feeding gypsy moth caterpillars.

The disease caused by NPV was first recognized in the early 1900s, several years after this insect pest was introduced in the United States. In the late 1950's, in response to the growing concern over the indiscriminant use of chemical pesticides, the USDA Forest Service (USFS) began to explore the feasibility of developing the gypsy moth NPV as an alternative to chemical insecticides for suppressing gypsy moth populations. In April 1978, following several years of research and development the gypsy moth nucleopolyhedrosis virus product GYPCHEK was registered by the EPA. The Hamden strain of the gypsy moth NPV (isolated from a Connecticut population) is the active ingredient in the currently registered product.

GYPCHEK affects only gypsy moth caterpillars and has no effect on beneficial insects. It has been shown to have no adverse effects on vertebrates including humans. The possibility that the gypsy moth NPV may be related to other viruses that infect people has been investigated. In studies carried out at Yale University, known human viruses were found to be unrelated to the NPV of the gypsy moth.

Currently GYPCHEK is manufactured by the USFS through a cooperative agreement between the USFS and the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
BUREAU OF FORESTRY
DIVISION OF FOREST PEST MANAGEMENT
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APPENDIX D

Private Residential Gypsy Moth Spraying Program Information Bulletin

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry, (DCNR) annually conducts an aerial gypsy moth suppression project for private residential landowners throughout Pennsylvania. This program is conducted and cost shared in cooperation with participating counties and receives partial funding from the USDA Forest Service and DCNR. To qualify for this program, your property must meet the requirements detailed below, and you must be willing to assume the responsibilities indicated.

Objective – DCNR’s sole objective under this program is to prevent gypsy moth caused defoliation in treated forest residential areas from exceeding 30% on 80% or more of the highly favored host trees.

Due to the limitations of the insecticides available and the establishment of gypsy moth throughout Pennsylvania, it is not economically feasible or biologically possible to eradicate gypsy moth from any part of the Commonwealth. In addition, the nuisance problem caused by larval gypsy moth populations may not be reduced to the satisfaction of all landowners, even though the foliage protection objective is met.

Insecticide -- A biological insecticide, *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki*, is the spray material that DCNR will use on private residential lands under this program. DCNR will select the rate of application and dosage based upon gypsy moth population density and health with the highest dose used on the heaviest and healthiest populations. Because Bt is a biological insecticide whose effectiveness can be affected by weather conditions during and after application as well as insect population levels, DCNR does not guarantee the degree of control. A second biological insecticide, Gypchek, may be used in cases where Bt is not appropriate because of the presence of lepidopteran species-of-concern that could be impacted.

Qualifying Areas – Only forested private residential sites containing trees 25 feet or more in height qualify for this portion of the program. These sites must have at least 50 percent of the surface area, when viewed from above, covered by the crowns of these trees. Twenty percent or more of this crown cover must be made up of tree species which are highly favored by the gypsy moth. Highly favored species include apple, aspen, basswood, beech, birches (gray, white, and river), boxelder, hawthorn, larch, oaks (all species), willows, and witch hazel. The site must have a dwelling located within or no more than 200 feet from the forest. The spray block to protect this site will be designed to provide treatment to all forested areas within 500 feet of the dwelling and, in so doing, must include at least twenty three (23) acres of forest. The spray block will be designed to facilitate aerial spraying regardless of how large or small the landowner’s property actually is. Spray blocks will not be custom designed to accommodate property boundary lines. Neighboring residential properties where all the landowners desire treatment will be combined into a single block whenever possible.

Non-Qualifying Areas – Residential properties with only scattered ornamental trees and shrubs or any property with trees that are readily accessible to ground spray equipment do not qualify for this program. Also, areas that contain any nontarget organisms that would be adversely affected by spraying or areas which are unsafe for aerial spraying because of obstructions or terrain will not be considered.

Egg Mass Density – The proposed treatment areas must contain at least 250 healthy, current-season gypsy moth egg masses per acre or, if there are less than 250 egg masses per acre, there must be a reasonable expectation that high numbers of gypsy moth larvae will be blown into the area next spring. Only areas within one air mile of a heavily infested ridge qualify in the latter respect.

The landowner can measure egg mass density by randomly establishing 1/40-acre circular plots (radius = 18.6 feet) and counting all of the egg masses including those under rocks and those high in the trees (use binoculars). Multiply the plot count by 40 to get the per-acre equivalent. As many egg masses as possible should be touched to ensure that they are from the current season. Egg masses from previous seasons, while looking very viable in appearance, will feel soft and mushy to the touch. The current-season egg masses should not be removed and destroyed until after December 1 when the cooperator and DCNR field evaluations will be completed.

Areas that have very small egg masses (less than dime size), regardless of the number, often do not qualify for the program because the gypsy moth population will most likely succumb to natural mortality agents shortly after they emerge in the spring.

Request for Treatment – The private residential landowner who meets the above qualifications must initiate a request for treatment with the county gypsy moth program coordinator designated by the cooperating county—no requests can be made directly through DCNR. This person can be reached by calling the county commissioners' office. Requests must be made from June 1 to July 31 annually (some counties extend this deadline to August 30)—a request must be made each year the landowner experiences a problem. Adjacent landowners within a qualifying area should band together and submit a united request.

Spray Block Coordinator – If requested by the county gypsy moth program coordinator, as a condition of treatment, one of the landowners within a proposed spray block must agree to serve as the spray block coordinator (SBC). The SBC will be responsible for distributing notification letters to and collecting landowner assessments (see below) from all spray block residents. With some training from DCNR and the cooperator, the SBC can be used to monitor future gypsy moth population buildups and to initiate future requests for treatments in a timely manner.

Landowner Assessments – Many county cooperators require the landowners within an approved spray block to pay a per-acre fee which is used to partially or wholly pay the cooperator's required cost-sharing to DCNR. The total landowner assessment for the block must be paid by the cooperator's deadline or the entire block will be dropped from the program on December 1.

The cooperator will refund a landowner's payment only if the entire block is dropped from the program because of nonpayment of the total assessment for the block or if a neighbor's objection to spraying causes the landowner's property to be dropped from the block.

APPENDIX E

Checklist for Determining Spray Block Eligibility

This checklist is provided as a quick means for the County Gypsy Moth Program Coordinator to determine whether or not a proposed area meets all of the standards necessary to qualify for inclusion in the cooperative suppression project. If any one item is answered with a **NO**, the area does not qualify and must not be submitted with your proposal for treatment. Please consult the *Cooperator Participation Manual – County Cooperator* for details on any of these items.

STANDARD	YES	NO
Does the area fall into one of the following ownership categories (check the appropriate one)? <input type="checkbox"/> Forested Residential <input type="checkbox"/> Forested Recreational (Publicly Owned) <input type="checkbox"/> Forested Special-Use (Noncommercial) <input type="checkbox"/> Public Water Supply		
Does the area contain twenty three (23) acres or more of forest with at least 50% crown cover made up of a least 20% highly favored species?		
If the block has less than 50 qualifying forested acres is it less than five (5) air miles of other proposed areas (check with other Cooperators and the AFPMS)?		
Does the area contain at least 250 healthy egg masses per acre for Forested Residential or Forested Recreational properties; or 500 healthy egg masses per acre for Forested Special-Use or Public Water Supplies; or a reasonable potential for blow-in?		
Are Cooperator's cost-sharing funds available?		

Please note: Checking 'yes' to all the standards does not mean a proposed spray block automatically qualifies for the program. All proposed blocks must be approved by DCNR.

APPENDIX F

Individual Landowner Notification Letter Sample

Your County Commissioners are cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Bureau of Forestry and the USDA Forest Service in a joint effort to suppress the gypsy moth this spring in certain populated and public high-use areas. Treatment areas were selected on the basis of surveys and resident requests. Gypsy moth population density levels indicate that a serious defoliation problem will occur unless spraying is conducted.

All or a portion of your land or residential property is located within one of the areas which qualifies and is proposed for treatment. No reply is necessary if you want your property sprayed. **HOWEVER, IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR RESIDENCE OR PROPERTY INCLUDED IN THE SPRAY PROGRAM, CONTACT THE COUNTY GYPSY MOTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR'S OFFICE IN WRITING WITHIN TEN DAYS OF RECEIPT OF THIS LETTER, AND DESCRIBE THE EXACT LOCATION OF YOUR PROPERTY.** We will then take steps to have your property excluded from the program.

If your property is occupied by a tenant, please provide them with a copy of this letter. If you own a large tract(s) of land, all of your property may not be included in the spraying program. Program standards provide for the treatment of a forested buffer extending no farther than 500 feet from the residence(s) being protected. Open fields, open areas containing only a few scattered trees, and narrow fence rows will not be treated. A detailed map which outlines the proposed spray boundaries is available for examination in our office and in the Bureau of Forestry office.

The spraying is scheduled to occur sometime from late April to early June depending upon insect and leaf development in your area. Local news media will carry information on more specific dates. Spraying will be done by aircraft starting daily at daybreak and continuing as long as wind and other conditions are acceptable. Evening, weekend, and holiday spraying will also be conducted when conditions permit. Normally, only one treatment will be applied to any particular property.

A biological insecticide, *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Bt), will be used on your property. It is not a chemical insecticide and affects only leaf-eating caterpillars at the time of application. However, Bt may not kill all of the gypsy moth caterpillars. In severe infestations the percentage of surviving caterpillars may still be sufficient to cause some defoliation and also be a nuisance to the homeowner. We will use the most appropriate dose and application rate of Bt and try our best to apply it at the proper time, but we cannot guarantee the results.

Bt has not been shown to be harmful to humans, pets, livestock, or gardens. However, we recommend that you observe normal precautions and remain under cover during spraying. If exposed, wash with soap and water.

Any questions regarding the gypsy moth, the insecticide, or this program can be directed either to the county gypsy moth program coordinator's office or to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Area Forest Pest Management Specialist for your area. The latter's address and telephone number is <<Name, address, and telephone number of FPM Area office>>.

APPENDIX G

Public Notice Sample

ATTENTION:

PROPERTY OWNERS OF <<COUNTY NAME>>

<<County name>> is cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Bureau of Forestry and the USDA Forest Service in a joint effort to spray gypsy moth caterpillars this spring in certain residential and public high-use areas within the county. The areas scheduled for treatment are located in <<names of townships, boroughs, and other municipalities>>. These treatment areas were selected on the basis of surveys and resident requests received last summer - no additional areas can be added at this time.

A biological insecticide, *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Bt), which only affects leaf-eating caterpillars, will be used. However, Bt may not kill all of the gypsy moth caterpillars. In severe infestations the percentage of surviving caterpillars may still be sufficient to cause some defoliation and also be a nuisance to the homeowner. Because of this and the variability in control caused by the weather, the results cannot be guaranteed.

The spraying is scheduled to occur sometime from late April to early June depending upon caterpillar and leaf development. Local news media will carry information on more specific dates. Spraying will be done by aircraft starting daily at daybreak and continue as long as wind and other conditions are acceptable. Evening, weekend, and holiday spraying will also be conducted when conditions permit. Normally, only one treatment will be applied to any particular property. Bt has not been shown to be harmful to humans, pets, livestock, or gardens. However, it is recommended that you observe normal precautions and remain under cover during spraying. If exposed to the spray, wash with soap and water.

Program standards provide for the treatment of a forested buffer extending no farther than 500 feet from the residence(s) being protected. Open fields, open areas containing only a few scattered trees, and narrow fence rows will not be treated.

Detailed maps of the treatment areas are available for your review at <<indicate location, address, and phone numbers>> during the hours of <<indicate time and days available>>.

Landowners within approved spray blocks were individually notified in December, January, and February.

Any additional questions regarding the gypsy moth, the insecticide, or this program can be directed to: <<Name, address, and telephone number of County Gypsy Moth Spray Program Coordinator>>

APPENDIX H

School Advisory Letter Sample

Please be advised that <<name of county>> is cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Bureau of Forestry, in conducting a gypsy moth suppression project in certain forested sections of <<name of county>> this spring. Since students may be outside at the time aerial spraying is conducted, we are asking your cooperation in notifying them of commonsense precautions to take if in a treatment area during spraying.

The insecticide being used on residential properties is *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (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 from late April to early June.

To avoid the possibility of eye irritation, persons should not look up as the spray droplets are 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.

If your faculty is planning field trips into or near forested tracts in this area, please have them contact this office <<give office name, contact person's name, address, and telephone>> to determine if any spraying activity is planned for that location at that time. You may also contact the Forestry office if you need additional information on the insecticides being used.

Thank you for your cooperation in this project.

Sincerely,

<<Coordinator signature>>

cc: AFPMS
FPM main office

APPENDIX I

Local Government Officials Advisory Letter Sample

Please be advised that <<*name of county*>> is cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Bureau of Forestry, in conducting a gypsy moth suppression project in certain forested sections of <<*name of township, city, borough, or town*>> this spring. Since a portion of the spraying is being conducted within the jurisdictional boundaries of your municipality, you may get questions from residents regarding the spraying. We are asking your cooperation in notifying them of commonsense precautions to take if in a treatment area during spraying.

The insecticide being used on residential properties is *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (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 between late April and late May.

To avoid the possibility of eye irritation, persons should not look up as the spray droplets are 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.

To make spot removal as easy as possible, vehicles which are exposed to the spray deposit should be washed as soon as possible. If the deposit has dried, soaking a towel with a car wash soap and water will rehydrate the Bt and can then be removed by wiping with a towel or cloth.

You may contact the local Bureau of Forestry office <<*give office name, contact person's name, address, and telephone*>> if you need additional information on the insecticides being used or the timing of the spraying in your area.

Thank you for your cooperation in this project.

Sincerely,

<<*Coordinator signature*>>

cc: AFPMS
FPM main office

APPENDIX J

Objector to Spraying Form

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Bureau of Forestry, (DCNR) conducts an annual project to suppress outbreak populations of the gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and county and other local governments. Residential properties are included in the project only at the request of the impacted landowners and with their knowledge and approval. All residential properties are treated with the biological insecticide, *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Bt), which is manufactured from a naturally occurring bacteria. Bt has the highest known degree of safety to human health and the environment of any insecticide currently on the market and has been in use for over 30 years.

Property owners, who may be included in a proposed treatment area because of a request submitted by a neighbor, but who object to spraying, can elect to have their property deleted from a proposed treatment area as provided under the procedures used by DCNR to conduct the project.

- **DCNR will provide no more than a 250 foot no-spray zone around the objecting landowner's property. The exact size and shape of the no-spray zone will be determined by DCNR on a case-by-case basis, with operational logistics and safety determining the final exclusion zone. Every effort will be made to limit the amount of insecticide drift on to the objecting landowner's property. Also, ample notification of the application time will be supplied to the landowner.**

I, the undersigned, owner of the following described property, do hereby object to my property being treated under the gypsy moth suppression project proposed for the year _____. According to the operating procedures under which DCNR conducts this project, I agree to the procedures described above for excluding my property from the program:

Name (please print): _____

Address of affected property: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

County: _____ **Township:** _____

Phone: _____

Landowner Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Please Return This Form To Your County Coordinator Within 10 Days

Make A Copy Of This Form For Your Records

Note: A GIS file or GPS coordinates of property boundaries must be provided by Cooperator to DCNR

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Bureau of Forestry
Division of Forest Pest Management
400 Market Street, 6th Floor, P.O. Box 8552
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552
(717) 783-2066

APPENDIX K

Cooperator Sample Letter of Intent

July 15, 20xx

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Bureau of Forestry
Division of Forest Pest Management
400 Market Street, 6th Floor
P.O. Box 8552
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552

Dear Sir:

XXXXXXX County is planning to participate in the 20xx Gypsy Moth Suppression Program according to the procedures outlined in the *Cooperator Participation Manual – County Cooperator – June 2009*. Please accept this as evidence of our intent to participate in the 20xx program.

Should our plans change, we will notify you immediately.

Sincerely,

XXXXXXX

Commissioners
County Coordinator