



January 20, 2020

Dear Resident,

We are writing to inform you about our gypsy moth treatment projects planned for your area in June. Gypsy moth caterpillars feed on the leaves of over 300 species of trees and shrubs. At high populations, they may completely strip trees of their leaves in the spring. Repeated damage will weaken and eventually kill the trees. Each year the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) conducts an extensive trapping program to detect growing populations of gypsy moth. ODA has recently completed an analysis of gypsy moth population data across Ohio and has determined that a control treatment is needed in your area.

**You are invited to attend an Open House to discuss the treatments planned for your area:**

**February 13, 2020 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Marion Airport Terminal, 1530 Pole Lane Rd., Marion, OH.**

**February 18, 2020 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Pleasant Township Hall, 1035 Owens Rd. West, Marion, OH**

If you cannot attend the open house but would like to make a public comment you can do so by mail at the address listed above, or by e-mail: [plantpest@agri.ohio.gov](mailto:plantpest@agri.ohio.gov). The official public comment period is active until February 29, 2020.

**PRODUCT TO BE USED:** *Disparlure*, commercial name **Splat GM Organic**, is a product that mimics the gypsy moth pheromone. When applied to tree tops, the product disrupts the male moth's ability to find the female moth and mate. This application will occur near mid-June at the beginning of gypsy moth mating season. Splat is not harmful to humans, honey bees, or animals and is a certified organic material.

Gypsy moth treatments are conducted by airplanes that fly 50 - 100 feet above the tree tops to distribute product to specifically control gypsy moth populations. The treatments are not harmful to humans, animals, honey bees, or plants.

Prior to the treatment occurring, ODA will supply more specific information about the timing via social media, postcards, news releases and signage placed in the neighborhoods where the treatments will occur. Additionally, starting in May a pre-recorded message updated each day with information on treatment timing will be available by calling (614) 387-0907. If you would like more information including maps of the treatment blocks please visit our website [www.agri.ohio.gov](http://www.agri.ohio.gov), or call our office at (614) 728-6400.

Sincerely,

David Adkins, Agricultural Inspection Manager

Block: Marion East MD

