

For Immediate Release Friday, June 26, 2009

Cankerworm Control Program has Concluded

In response to the emergence of a significant cankerworm population, the Insect Control Branch undertook an extensive cankerworm control program focusing on selected streets in heavily foliaged areas that were at high risk of significant leaf damage. While it is never possible to completely eradicate the cankerworm population, the program was able to greatly reduce what could have been an extremely severe infestation.

The majority of cankerworms will no longer be feeding, thereby rendering any further spraying ineffective. Citizens will continue to notice worms hanging from their silken webs for about another week as they prepare for their next part of their life cycle in the ground.

The Insect Control Branch would like to encourage residents to do their part by putting up tree bands this fall (September long weekend) in order to minimize next year's population of cankerworms. For information on tree banding please contact 311, or visit the City's insect control website at <u>Winnipeg.ca/bugline</u>.

Interested individuals may acquire more information by contacting 311, or by visiting the City's Insect Control website at <u>Winnipeg.ca/bugline</u>.

- 30 -

Media inquiries may be directed to the City of Winnipeg Media Inquiry Line at (204) 986-6000 or via email at <u>MediaInquiry@winnipeg.ca</u>.