



## Tree pest caterpillar control program continues

The City of Winnipeg will continue its tree pest caterpillar control program tonight at **9:30 p.m.** in **Insect Management Area 33 (Lord Roberts, River - Osborne, Riverview)** and begin treatment in **Insect Management Areas 19 (St. Vital Perimeter South) and 41 (Armstrong Point, Broadway - Assiniboine, Legislature, Portage & Main, South Portage, The Forks, West Broadway, Wolseley)**. Spraying is scheduled to occur Sunday to Friday evenings during this program. Spraying will also not occur if there is significant rainfall or winds are greater than 20 km/hr.

Treatment will be conducted utilizing *Bacillus thuringiensis* subspecies *kurstaki* (Btk), a biological, organic product which is sprayed from high pressure tree sprayers directly onto the foliage of the trees located in City parks and on City boulevards. Once Btk is ingested by the tree pest caterpillars, they stop feeding and perish approximately two to three days later. This product has been approved for use in Canada by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency, and will be used in accordance with federally approved label directions by licensed pesticide applicators.

### Buffer zones

All buffer zones will be respected. Crews will ensure that the sprayer is not treating within 30 metres on each side of a registered property on the front street, side street, and rear lane.

Residents can apply for a 30-metre buffer zone in order to exempt their property during a tree pest caterpillar treatment program. Property owners not wanting insecticides applied on or adjacent to their principal residence may register as "Anti-Pesticide Registrants" for tree pest caterpillar control using Btk. Those who want to register must provide identification that ties the registrant to the address being registered for a buffer zone. A photocopy or scanned document such as a driver's licence or utility bill will suffice as acceptable identification proving primary residence.

**The in-person option of registering is temporarily suspended due to COVID-19. Buffer zone applications will still be received by:**

- [311 online service request](#)
- Email [311@winnipeg.ca](mailto:311@winnipeg.ca)
- Fax 311
- In writing to the Insect Control Branch at 3 Grey Street., Winnipeg MB R2L 1V2

### **Register for notification**

The Insect Control Branch offers an automated telephone and email notification system. Residents who register for this service will receive daily phone or email notifications for all tree pest caterpillar activities. Residents can register for [notification online](#) or by [contacting 311](#).

### **More information**

For more information, contact 311 or visit the City's [Insect Control website](#).