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## **AERIAL SPRAYING FOR EUROPEAN GYPSY MOTH OVER YOUR AREA**

Weather permitting, during late June, the area you live in is scheduled for an aerial application to eliminate European Gypsy Moth (EGM). A yellow, fixed wing aircraft will apply 6 grams of active ingredient per acre of the biological product SPLAT GM Organic. This could occur on just about any day of the week.

EGM is an invasive species from Europe, is one the most damaging forest and tree pests in the United States, and has become permanently established in Illinois. This treatment is part of a statewide program prevent EGM from establishing itself outside of the northeast corner of Illinois. We are also attempting to reduce the impact of its invasion from other states.

EGM defoliates multiple species of trees with the huge numbers of caterpillars that result from an infestation. After a few years (1-3) of having its leaves completely stripped-off, a tree will die. Also, the caterpillars are a tremendous nuisance, as they may render your yard nearly unusable from mid-June to early July.

SPLAT GM-Organic is the chemically copied female pheromone of the EGM. By saturating the area with pheromone, males in lightly infested areas are not able to find the females, hence mating is prevented. SPLAT GM-Organic is water, food grade vegetable oil and wax and is impregnated with the pheromone This product does not pose a risk to humans, animals, non-target organisms or the environment.

Our DeKalb Office can be contacted at 815.347.0401 or email our Program Manager, [Nancy.Johnson@Illinois.gov](mailto:Nancy.Johnson@Illinois.gov) Keep in mind that our Gypsy Moth Specialists will be in the field on the spray team during the spray program. You can view treatment blocks (areas) on line at the Illinois Department of Agriculture's website.