

Commonsense Precautions to Take if in a Treatment Area During Spraying

The insecticide being used on residential properties to treat Gypsy Moth in York County is *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Btk), a biological insecticide which has no known adverse human health or environmental impacts. The insecticide will be applied by helicopter, flying approximately 50 feet above the treetops. Spraying will generally take place between dawn and 11 a.m. (under 60 to 65 degrees F). It will not take place under windy or rainy conditions, but can take place on weekends or holidays.

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

You may wish to keep windows closed during the spraying. Although it should not harm them, you may wish to bring pets inside. Those with registered medical problems, schools and registered daycare centers in or near spray blocks will be notified the day before spraying takes place.

To make spot removal as easy as possible, vehicles which are exposed to the spray deposit should be washed as soon as possible.