



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PO Box 330
TRENTON NJ 08625-0330

EDWARD D. WENGRYN
Secretary

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lieutenant Governor

October 7, 2024

Ms. Amanda Lobban
Municipal Clerk
Sandyston Township
133 Route 645
Sandyston, New Jersey 07826

Dear Ms. Lobban:

As requested, the Department of Agriculture inspectors have completed the LDD (gypsy moth) egg mass survey in your municipality. The survey results show that heavy outbreaks of the pest are expected in your municipality next spring.

Approximately **1,342 acres** in three blocks using a single application of *B.t.k* qualify for the 2025 LDD (Gypsy Moth) Aerial Suppression Program. (See "Rules for Participation" and enclosed map). One of the blocks have high numbers of egg masses and would be recommended for a second treatment. If the municipality opts for the second application of this area, then the total number of acres would be **1,908**.

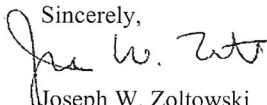
The Department will be offering technical assistance in the form of preparing spray contracts, obtaining spray vendors, ensuring the proper timing of treatment and monitoring of the spray operation itself. Your municipality is responsible for supplying personnel to assist program staff in the ground monitoring of the application and pay the full cost of the aerial treatment. *Bacillus thuringiensis, B.t.* will be the only insecticide used on the program.

The Department will be requesting financial assistance from the U.S. Forest Service to possibly provide up to 50 % reimbursement of spray costs for the 2025 aerial suppression program. The anticipated treatment cost per acre could range from \$60 to \$65 per acre. Last year the cost of treatment was \$59.95 per acre.

If your municipality would like to participate in the LDD (gypsy moth) program, with technical assistance by the Department and up to a possible 50% reimbursement of spray costs by the U.S. Forest Service, please complete the enclosed forms and return them to this office by **November 29, 2024**. You must also select a representative who will attend the LDD (Gypsy Moth) Regional Meeting to be held in January 2025.

If we have not heard from you by **November 29th**, we shall assume your community is not interested in participating in the 2025 spray program. If you need any additional information about the LDD (gypsy moth) program, please feel free to call the Department at (609) 406-6939.

Sincerely,


Joseph W. Zoltowski
Director, Division
of Plant Industry

Enclosures