



## BROWNTAIL MOTH TREATMENT—FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS

Robert Waeldner, Chairperson  
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### TOWN MANAGER

Nat Tupper

#### **Why is the Town treating the trees?**

The Town's goal is to preserve the health of the street trees and to minimize public health effects of Browntail Moth (BTM) caterpillars.

#### **What is the Town doing for treatments?**

The Town will contract with licensed professionals to perform the various methods of treatments. A combination of hydraulic and truck-mounted sprayers, bark injections, and soil injections will be used. The nests of many lower lying trees were pruned out over the winter.

#### **When and where will the treatments take place?**

Beginning in mid-April, the treatments began at various public locations. Locations identified for treatments include, but are not limited to: Yarmouth Public Schools, the Merrill Memorial Library, Main Street, North Road Playground, Royal River Park, and Village Green Park.

The Town will also identify streets most frequently used as pedestrian and bicycle routes. Many of these streets have adjacent residential properties with BTM infested trees.

#### **Will all the trees along the identified streets be treated?**

No. Only those trees infested by BTMs will be treated. Also, only those trees located within, or whose canopy is located within, the public right of way will be treated.

#### **What if I don't want the street trees adjacent to my property to be treated?**

You will need to return the Request for Exclusion form (opt-out) for Right of Way Pesticide Treatment. This form can be found on [www.yarmouth.me.us](http://www.yarmouth.me.us) and will be hand-delivered to those houses along the identified routes. These must be returned no later than the due dates listed on the form. These forms will be handed out ONLY if treatments are approaching your property's location.

#### **What should I do to prepare for spraying?**

To be really cautious, residents can do things such as keeping: windows closed; pets and animals inside; birdbaths, bird feeders, and other animal-friendly amenities protected; lawn furniture covered or hosed off after treatment; bicycles and vehicles protected, relocated, or washed down after treatment. And, don't leave your laundry hanging on the line overnight. The mist will dry quickly, within 2 hours of the spray being applied, and it will be safe to go outside.

#### **Will the treatments be disruptive?**

Unfortunately, the mist sprayer and hydraulic options are quite loud. The good news is that it will pass quickly and each area will only need to be treated once. We apologize for any disruption this might cause.

#### **Is there a way to know if and when my street will be treated?**

The Town will post a treatment schedule on our website and will keep it updated with any changes. Go to: [www.yarmouth.me.us](http://www.yarmouth.me.us) and click on "Browntail Moth Information." Please note – information could change daily due to wind and weather conditions or the stage of the BTM caterpillar.

#### **Where can I get more information?**

Town of Yarmouth [www.yarmouth.me.us](http://www.yarmouth.me.us)  
NNE Poison Control Center [www.nnepc.org](http://www.nnepc.org)  
ME Pesticide Control Board [pesticides@maine.gov](mailto:pesticides@maine.gov)

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