



Public Works  
Insect Control

# TREE PEST CATERPILLARS

## 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 Areas 6 (East Elmwood, Munroe East, Talbot Grey, Tyne-Tees), 7 (Radisson, Victoria West), and 33 (Lord Roberts, Riverview).** 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.

**We are not accepting in-person buffer zone applications as part of our COVID-19 protocols. Buffer zone applications must be submitted through one of the following methods:**

- Contacting [311](tel:311)
- In writing to the Insect Control Branch at 3 Grey Street, Winnipeg MB R2L 1V2

**Register for notification**

The City offers an automated telephone and email notification system. Residents who register for this service will receive daily phone or email notifications for tree pest control activities. To register for the automated email or telephone notifications, residents can go to [City of Winnipeg – Register for Notification](#) or [contact 311](#).

**More information**

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