



July 22, 2008

Deadline for Requesting Spraying Changed to September 15

Centre County has had to bring the final date for accepting requests for spraying forward to September 15, 2008. We had originally announced that it would be September 30, but on the advice of DCNR, decided to shorten the request period by two weeks.

This new date still gives Centre County residents two months between the time when the program was opened for applications and the closing date to request spraying and to inform their neighbors, family and friends about the program.

Please don't wait until the last possible date!

With many weeks still left to go, it is tempting to put off signing up for spraying until the second week in September. Please fight that urge! We decided to extend the sign-up period on the understanding that people will sign-up as soon as they realize that there are new egg masses on their property, and therefore they have a potential gypsy moth problem in 2009. This way we can start surveying areas in mid-July and be completed by the DCNR deadline (which is two weeks after we stop accepting requests).

See Your Requests to Spray Mapped Online

Some time soon we plan to make available an online map which shows all the requests for spraying. The map will be available on the county gypsy moth web site. Each request will be marked by a colored dot showing the location of the requester's residence (or cabin) with a transparent colored disc showing the 500ft area around the

building representing the spray area (See example figure below). Note that in practice the round area will be squared off to a 1,000ft x 1,000ft rectangle. Overlapping areas, of course, get combined to a larger spray block. As the season progresses, these same request areas will get transformed into provisional spray blocks (not yet approved by DCNR but constructed using their rules). Later still, once paid for and approved by DCNR, they will become the final spray blocks that will be sprayed in May 2009.

A earlier version of the map was released this year in March, and is still available on line (www.co.centre.pa.us/gypsymoth) – click on "View the 2008 Treatment Areas" if you haven't explored it.



Figure of three 2009 requests, shown as green dots. The middle request does not have a residence, so it does not have a 500ft buffer (blue disc). In practice, the two discs would be combined to form one spray block. This example is for illustrative purposes only. Neighbors to the west have also signed up, so the likely final block will cover them as well.