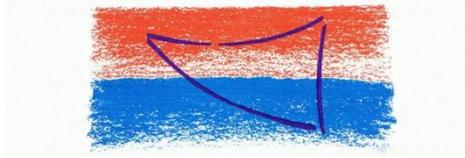


Wymbolwood Beach Association



Dear WBA member –

As a result of the gypsy moth discussion and the expressed interest of members who attended the AGM on Sept 5, 2020, the WBA is organizing a spray with **Zimmer Air** (www.zimmerair.com) for those property owners wishing to participate. Zimmer Air is the “go to” for forest pest control. Please note that participation is **OPTIONAL** and will be subject to a fee, as outlined in the financial section below.

Timing is critical; we need to book Zimmer as soon as possible and no later than November 30th to ensure that they are able to include Wymbolwood.

The Issue:

As stated in the recent Tiny Cottager by FoTTSA president Paul Cowley, "Gypsy moths have caused extensive damage to our tree canopy in the last two years. In 2021 they promise to cause greater and potentially irreversible damage if problem areas are not sprayed."

On Wymbolwood, many of our members have shared stories of the damage Gypsy Moths have caused on their own properties. Gypsy Moth populations are cyclical and there is likely to be one or two more years of serious infestation. The life cycle begins in the early spring when the eggs hatch into caterpillars. The caterpillars feed on the leaves of many species of trees (oak, birch, poplar, white pine, willow and maple). In July, the caterpillars develop into pupae which then emerge as adult moths.

The aerial spray which is used as a control is naturally occurring soil bacteria. When applied at the early stages of the caterpillar cycle, it is effective at controlling the population. Because the gypsy moth caterpillars emerge so early in the season, there are very few native species of butterflies and moths in their young caterpillar stage that are around at that time. Particularly, Monarch caterpillars do not appear until later in the season due to their migration from the south. Once the adult Gypsy moths appear, it is only the male moths that are capable of flying. The female moths can only walk to the site where they lay their eggs and are not able to travel far from where they developed to lay their eggs. This means that, ***if you control the moths on your property, there***

is very little likelihood that moths will invade your property from nearby untreated areas.

About the Spray program:

Zimmer Air has agreed to operate a spray program for Wymbolwood cottage owners (assuming there are enough owners interested). 2 sprays (estimated a week apart) will take place between mid-May and early June. Exact dates will be confirmed next year by Zimmer Air. The helicopter flies low to the ground, and therefore is pretty accurate. Property owners electing to participate will need to get waivers from their neighbours (should a neighbour not wish to participate) for the spraying, as a 20 M (60 ft) clearance is necessary on each side – see process section below.

Financial Requirement:

Cost per property is **\$357 + HST** (this is the minimum cost and covers up to 1 acre). By organizing this through the volunteer WBA Board, depending on the number of participants and the complexity of the spray (for example, it's easier to spray 5 properties in a row than do 1, skip 1, etc...), the WBA will try and negotiate a group discount. In addition, the WBA has a reserve fund set aside of \$11,500 for gypsy moth spraying that can be shared by participants. Therefore, we are confident that the **MAXIMUM** cost per property will be \$403 including GST and will most likely be less.

ACTION REQUIRED by all participants:

1. Please send an email to paywymbolwood@gmail.com **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY NOVEMBER 6th** indicating EITHER
 - a. YES - please include my property in the spray program
 - b. NO - I do not wish to have my property sprayed. **If you strongly object to spraying, please include this in your email, as it may have implications for any of your neighbours wishing to spray.**

Include your name, email and cottage number.

2. If you have replied "YES" in 1), the WBA will send you a contract to fill out. Please note this contract is directly with Zimmer Air, requires the tax roll #, and will need to be signed by the registered owner of the property. Payment is

not required until the first spray. The WBA will also let you know if you need to get waivers from your neighbours, should your neighbours decline to participate. We will send you the waivers and endeavour to help you with information to help you connect with your neighbours.

3. If you have replied "NO" in 1) the WBA will send you a waiver to fill out.

Please return a signed and scanned copy of the contract and waivers to paywymbolwood@gmail.com NO LATER THAN **WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 25th**

Please reach out with any questions to paywymbolwood@gmail.com.

Thank you!

On behalf of WBA Directors

Jeff Fredericks (President)
Kathryn From (Treasurer) and
Lynn Short (resident Environmental Guru)

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