Northumberland County

Gypsy Moth Update

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Background

- Lymantria dispar dispar (LDD) moths (known as European gypsy moths) first found in Ontario in 1969
- Appears in 7 to 10-year cycles, usually lasting 3 years – we are in year 2
- Population fluctuates in relation to environmental and biological controls

Current Outbreak

- 2021 outbreak has been severe and distressing to homeowners especially during the added stress of Covid-19 restrictions.
- Homeowners are overwhelmed, concerned about the health of their trees, and some are experiencing skin irritations from contact with caterpillars.

Overarching Concerns:

- Ecological impacts from declines\losses of oaks and other trees
- Negative forest user experiences due to large numbers of caterpillars and tree declines and mortality
- Increased hazard tree removal costs

Current Outbreak

- Defoliation of oaks, poplars, birch trees across Southern Ontario
- Majority of healthy trees expected to recover

Gypsy moth 2020

Areas in Ontario where gypsy moth caused defoliation

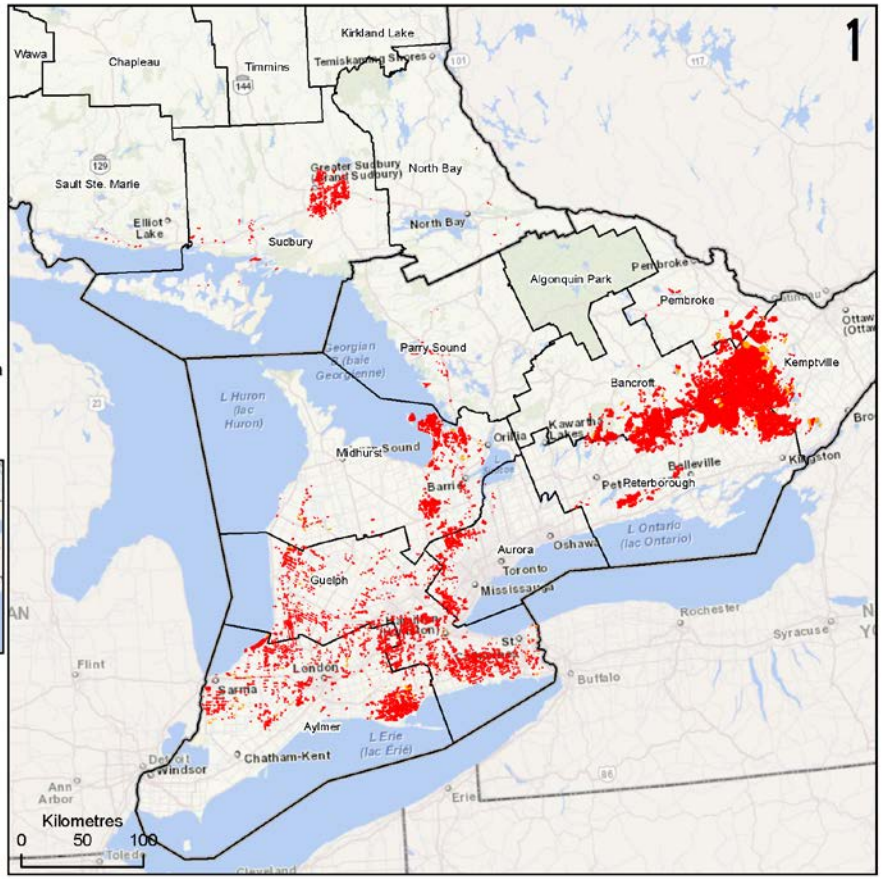
Light = 17,002 ha
Moderate to severe = 569,384 ha

Area of light defoliation

Area of moderate to severe defoliation

Disclaimer:
This map is illustrative only. Do not rely on this map as being a precise indicator of routes, locations of features, nor as a guide to navigation. This map was produced by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

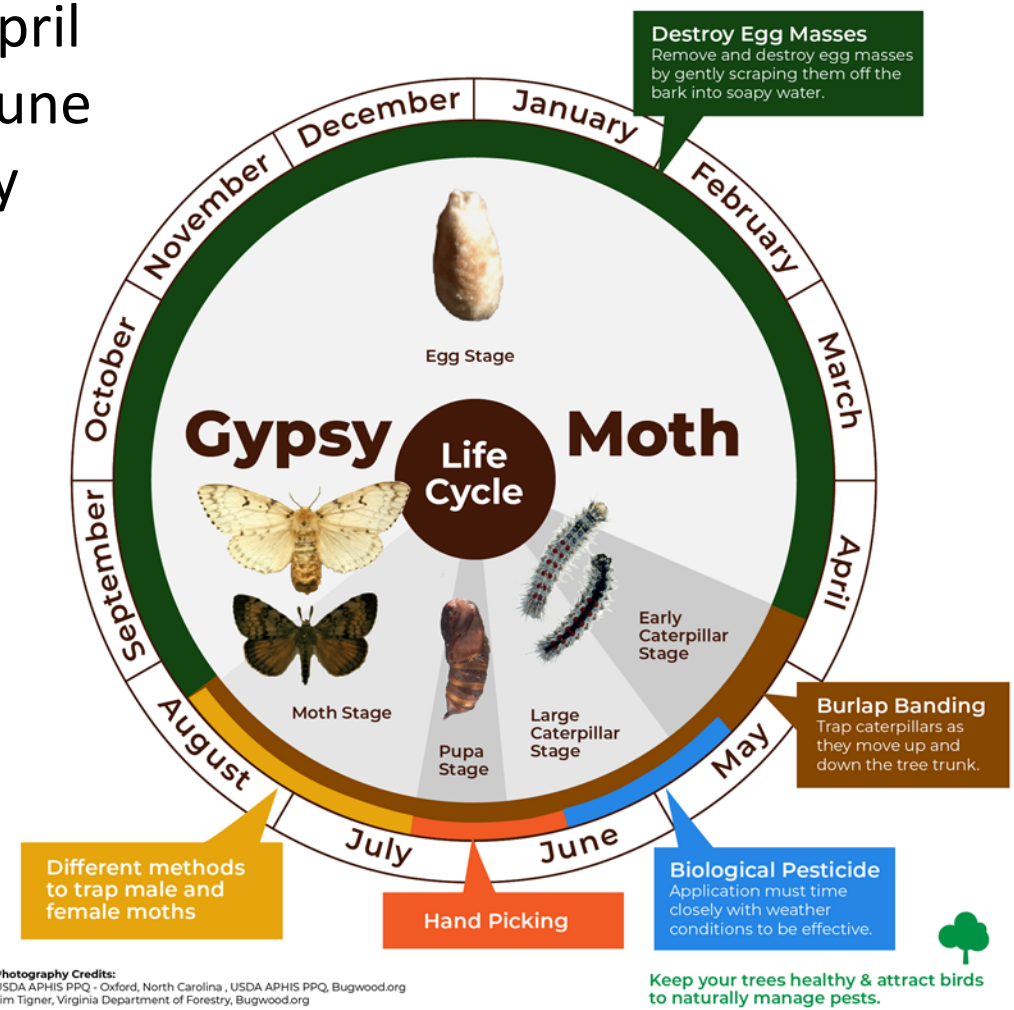
Ontario



Pest Management Strategies

Northumberland County

- Egg: Late August to Late April
- Larvae: Late April to Mid June
- Pupa: Mid June to Mid July
- Adults: Mid July to Late August



Integrated Pest Management

- Remove eggs masses from Special Management Zones in County Forest
- Burlap wrap high value trees
- Analyze defoliation and tree recovery
- Count egg masses to predict extent of 2022 outbreak

- Direct residents to www.Northumberland.ca/gypsymoth for pest management strategies

- Collaboration with Ganaraska Conservation Region Authority and Nature Conservancy of Canada

Approach across Ontario

- Most municipalities and Conservation Authorities are using similar pest management strategies
- GRCA sprayed 100 acres with insecticide

Future Considerations

- Survey defoliation and mortality of trees
- Analyze GRCA treatment
- Forecast 2022 outbreak through Modified Kaladar Plot (MKP)