



Aquatic Consulting Services

P.O. Box 530, Sanford, MI 48657
www.aquaticremedies.com

989-689-0223

December 11, 2024

Julius Suchy, Manager
Ada Township
7330 Thornapple River Dr, PO Box 370
Ada, MI 49301

Dear Mr. Suchy,

We have completed the spongy moth surveys, map, and report for the 2025 season in Ada Township, Kent County. I have included JPG and PDF map files of the results for you to review and to post on the township website as needed. Both JPG and PDF files are printable for your purposes although the PDF file will likely be more user friendly on a website. I will provide your GIS personnel with .SHP files for use in a GIS mapping system. I have also included a short report on the conditions in each recommended spray block. An 18 x 24-inch map may be sent in a separate package for display purposes, if desired.

Overall, Ada Township is in much better shape than many other areas in the state, but we are seeing signs of rebound in a couple populations in Ada Township. Thankfully, we caught things early and we are still in the nuisance stage of spongy moth infestation in all recommended spray areas. Observed egg mass densities are significantly lower than we were seeing 3 years ago, but the new egg masses are trending upward and appear healthy, so we need to act aggressively. Accordingly, we must recommend an increase of 103 acres for a total of 392 acres for spring 2025. We have stated in prior reports that Michigan remains in a very volatile spongy moth population cycle, and this remains as true as ever. A few communities surrounding Ada are seeing only trace remnant populations, conversely one former client directly adjacent to Ada Township has signed on this season showing startling egg mass densities equal to anything we observed at the most recent cycle peak. Further, we have seen nearly eradicated remnant spongy moth populations rebound to problem levels within 2 years, so we must remain vigilant. I anticipate we will continue to make gains next season, but strongly encourage Ada Township to continue with a monitoring program of some kind.

I will hold off on digitizing the spray blocks for the pilot's use until you have had a chance to review the maps. Once we get closer to spray time and you have selected an aerial applicator, I will provide the pilot with spray maps and digitized files.

Thank you for the opportunity to work for Ada Township this season. Please let me know if I can help you with anything further at this time. 989-689-0223 or spongymoth@aquaticremedies.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Neal Swanson".

Neal Swanson
Owner/Biologist