

April 15, 2022



Dear Ada Resident:

This letter is to inform you that in the month of May, Hamilton Helicopters Inc will be spraying for spongy (gypsy) moths in targeted areas throughout the Township. Your property is one that will be sprayed (see attached map). The Township will have 2,670 acres of property sprayed this year to help reduce defoliation of trees and shrubs by this invasive insect. The area identified for spraying was based on an egg mass survey completed in the fall of 2021-22 by Aquatic Consulting Services – this report is available on our website.

**Why is the Township Involved?**

Theoretically, a property owner could hire a company to spray their individual parcel. However, sprayers typically require a minimum of 100 acres before they accept a job. Therefore, the Township has agreed to act as the “general contractor”. This enables property owners who have less than 100 acres to participate, and it also drops the overall cost of the spray program.

**How much will this cost me?**

The cost for this year’s program is \$75.70 per acre – which will be funded 100% by the Township. The Township is planning on using general fund dollars to fund the program in year one due to the short turn around and lengthy process to go through a special assessment. The Township has discussed implementing a special assessment for future years that would assess the cost of the program to those who have their property sprayed. This will allow you to do some estimating on how much a special assessment could cost in future years based on your parcel size. All residents subject to the special assessment in future years would be notified prior to this action being taken. A listing of all parcels impacted can be found at our website.

**When will the spray be applied and is it safe?**

Spraying will most likely occur between May 15-31 but is weather dependent. The product that is sprayed is called Btk. Btk, short for *Bacillus thuringiensis var. kurstaki*, is a bacterium found naturally on leaves and in the soil. These bacteria are tiny little factories that produce protein crystals that kill specific groups of insects. Btk is effective only on butterfly or moth caterpillars that consume a toxic dose of the btk during its 10-14 day active phase. Additional information can be found on the website.

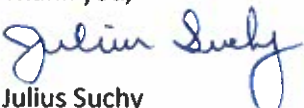
**Will we need to spray in subsequent years?**

It is entirely possible that one treatment will not completely eradicate the problem. Aquatic Consulting Services has indicated it normally takes up to three (3) years to see significant results when it comes to a suppression program. After our spraying the Township will complete an egg mass survey next fall to determine the needs for spraying the following year.

Please visit our website ([www.adatownshipmi.com](http://www.adatownshipmi.com)) to find out more information on the spraying program. This information can be found under the “Services – Spongy (Gypsy) Moth” drop down. We will also post the spray date on the website when it is finalized, as well as our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/AdaVillage](http://www.facebook.com/AdaVillage)).

If you have any questions, please contact me at 616-676-9191 ext. 48 or via email at [jsuchy@adatownshipmi.com](mailto:jsuchy@adatownshipmi.com).

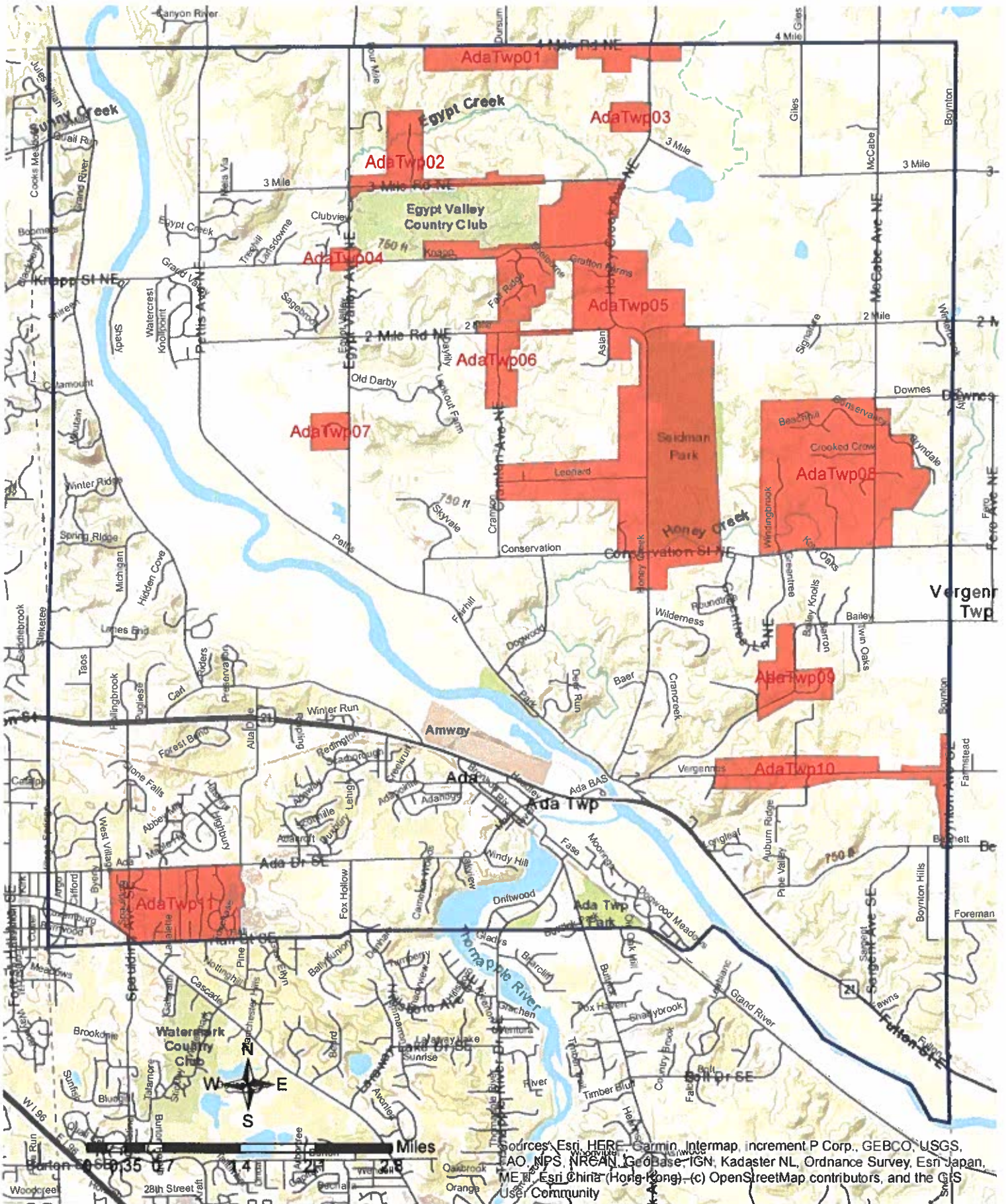
Thank you,



Julius Suchy  
Township Manager



# Ada Township Gypsy Moth Survey Report 2022 Season



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, Geobase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, MEI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

**Shaded areas are recommended for aerial B.t.k. spray in Spring 2022**

**Aquatic Consulting Services 2021**