

**From:** [Doug Millar](#)  
**To:** [Stephanie Troyer-Boyd](#)  
**Subject:** A letter in support of Gypsy Moth spraying  
**Date:** Thursday, November 19, 2020 1:36:41 PM

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November 15, 2020  
Mayor and Council,  
Municipality of Lambton Shores

Dear Mayor Weber and Members of Council,

Greetings,

We live in Southcott Pines and we wish to add our names to the many who are concerned about the dire situation created by the expanding Gypsy Moth threat. Over the past year, some friends have had their properties damaged by this invasive species and, in the past months, we too have found moth egg sacks on a few trees on our property. We are concerned that next summer we will suffer our friends' fate.

According to available information, unless action is taken, this threat will not go away before first doing great damage to our unique oak savanna Carolinian forest. The need to protect the trees should be self-evident, not only for their beauty and the home they provide for wildlife but also to maintain property values and support local businesses that rely on tourists who come to enjoy our natural environment.

I have read the contents of staff report CAO-06-2020, and I respectfully suggest that this report is not a call for municipal leadership in this matter, but rather an excuse to avoid it. It is quite disappointing and contrary to the Municipal Act that specifically directs municipalities to have policies that shall protect and enhance the tree canopy within their jurisdictions.

As property owners, when we pay our taxes, we expect good and proper governance from our elected representatives. And when a municipality is facing a crisis that threatens to permanently alter the environment we all cherish, we expect our representatives to take appropriate action to resolve the crisis.

There is ample evidence that aerial spraying of BTK for the area bounded by Thedford, Port Franks and Grand Bend in May 2021 will greatly increase the mortality of the Gypsy Moth larvae.

Only the municipality can efficiently contract for and coordinate the required spraying throughout the affected areas in Lambton Shores. Gypsy Moths are not attacking just one or two properties therefore an individual's efforts will have little or no effect managing the threat. And only the municipality can orchestrate the economy of scale that will make the spraying affordable.

Please act in everyone's best interest to manage this public, economic and environmental health challenge. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Doug and Rosemary Millar  
10305 Riverside Drive,  
Southcott Pines, Grand Bend.