



INFORMATION - COMMUNIQUÉ

For Immediate Release
Thursday, May 13th, 2010

Cankerworm Control Program Continues in Areas throughout the City

Winnipeg, MB – Today, Thursday, May 13th, 2010, weather permitting; the City of Winnipeg's Insect Control Branch will continue its cankerworm control program in areas throughout the City focusing on the large stands of American Elm, Manitoba Maple, Green Ash, and ornamental trees, the preferred host for spring and fall cankerworms.

Yesterday evening the Insect Control Branch completed St. Vital Park & Cemetery. Starting at 10:00 p.m. tonight, crews will continue treatment of Assiniboine Park, Brookside Cemetery, and Kildonan Park, weather permitting.

Treatment will be conducted utilizing Btk, a biological product, which is sprayed from high pressure tree sprayers directly onto the foliage of the trees located in City parks and on City boulevards. This product has been approved for use in Canada by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency, and will be used in accordance with federally approved labeled directions by licensed pesticide applicators.

Spraying will occur five nights per week, Sunday to Thursday from 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m., weather permitting. Spraying will not occur if there is significant rainfall or winds are greater than 20 kmph.

Citizens may register for a 30m buffer zone if they do not wish spraying to be carried out on or adjacent to their property. Citizens may register by contacting the Insect Control Branch in writing at 3 Grey Street, Winnipeg, MB, R2L 1V2, or by faxing 311, or by registering on line at Winnipeg.ca/bugline.

Citizens may register for email notification regarding planned tree spraying by visiting our website at Winnipeg.ca/bugline. They can also register for telephone notification by calling 311 and leaving their name, address and phone number. Once registered, residents will receive automated phone or email notification identifying the area(s) of the City in which the Insect Control Crews are intending to work, weather permitting.

Interested individuals may acquire more information by contacting 311, or by visiting the City's Insect Control website at Winnipeg.ca/bugline.

Media inquiries may be directed to the City of Winnipeg Media Inquiry Line at (204) 986-6000 or via email at MediaInquiry@winnipeg.ca.