



Washington State Department of Agriculture News Release

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Environmental documents under review for two gypsy moth eradications *Comments due April 16 for proposed projects in Puyallup, Eatonville*

OLYMPIA – The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is accepting public comments on proposed plans to eradicate infestations of gypsy moth at two locations in Pierce County, a 43-acre commercial site at the South Hill Mall in Puyallup and a 13-acre residential site in Eatonville.

Before a proposed treatment is approved or disapproved, state and federal law requires WSDA to prepare two environmental documents assessing the impact of the treatments on the environment, then make the documents available to the public for review and comment.

Documents available for public review include a completed State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklist approved by WSDA, and a draft environmental assessment prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Documents are posted on the Pest Program website pages for [gypsy moth](#) (<http://agr.wa.gov/PlantsInsects/InsectPests/GypsyMoth/>). Copies may also be reviewed at three libraries: the Washington State Library, Point Plaza East, 6880 Capital Blvd., Tumwater; the Puyallup City Library, 324 S. Meridian in Puyallup and the Pierce County Library, Eatonville Branch, 205 Center St. West in Eatonville.

Deadline for submitting written comments to WSDA on the proposed treatments is April 16.

Reproducing populations of the destructive gypsy moth were detected at the South Hill Mall and in Eatonville last summer when WSDA trappers caught moths and found other evidence of gypsy moth activity. If approved, treatments with a biological insecticide would begin in April or early May.

For more information on WSDA's gypsy moth program, call the agency's toll-free hotline at 1 (800) 443-6684.

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