

# Kill gypsy moth egg masses in winter



Each destroyed egg mass represents hundreds of caterpillars that won't be feeding on your trees.

Scrape or spray between mid-October and mid-April.

## Destroying Egg Masses

**SCRAPE METHOD**—Scrape the egg masses into a small container and soak in soapy water for 2 days or into a microwave-safe container and microwave on high setting for 2 minutes. Eggs scraped onto the ground will survive and hatch next spring.

**SPRAY METHOD**—Spray egg masses with a horticultural oil, available from many lawn and garden centers. The oil penetrates into the mass, suffocating individual eggs. It doesn't harm the tree as could motor oil. If participating in an aerial spray program, leave the oil-treated egg masses in place to be counted.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** contact a Regional Gypsy Moth Suppression Coordinator; visit the Wisconsin Cooperative Gypsy Moth Program Web site at:

**[www.gypsymoth.wi.gov](http://www.gypsymoth.wi.gov)**; or call 1-800-642-MOTH (6684).



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*Photo credits: Bill McNee (tree) and Bob Queen (egg mass); Design by Union Street Design, LLC*