

MOTION:

**June 22, 2021
Regular Meeting
Ord. No. 21-**

SECOND:

RE: AMEND THE GYPSY MOTH AND MOSQUITO CONTROL SERVICE DISTRICT ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE SURVEILLANCE AND OUTREACH FOR SPOTTED LANTERNFLY AND PESTS IDENTIFIED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

ACTION:

WHEREAS, Prince William County has remedied areas of gypsy moth and fall cankerworm infestation, and it continues surveillance and treatment for Emerald Ash Borer, Asian Longhorned Beetle, Thousand Cankers Disease, and Sudden Oak Death; and

WHEREAS, Spotted Lanternfly populations and other pests identified by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services have been identified in surrounding localities and states; and

WHEREAS, Spotted Lanternfly and other identified pests can cause leaf loss, uprooting, broken limbs, as well as tree mortality; and

WHEREAS, Section 15.2-2400 (et seq.), VA Code Ann., permits the Prince William Board of County Supervisors (Board) to create service districts by ordinance, including the control of pests which have been identified by the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in accordance with the Virginia Pest Law (Section 3.2-700 et seq.), VA Code Ann.; and

WHEREAS, the Board created the Gypsy Moth Infestation Control Service District in 1992 by Ordinance Number (Ord. No.) 92-47, amended it to include mosquitoes in 1994 by Ord. No. 94-21, amended it in 2004 to include fall cankerworms by Ord. No. 04-28, and amended it again in 2012 to include surveillance and outreach for Emerald Ash Borer, Asian Longhorned Beetle, Thousand Cankers Disease, Sudden Oak Death, and Oak Splendour Beetle by Ord. No. 12-58; and

WHEREAS, the list of pests identified by the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services includes pests not enumerated in previous amendments to the Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District; and

WHEREAS, a proposal has been made to amend the Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District to include surveillance and outreach for Spotted Lanternfly and pests identified by the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the boundaries of which shall encompass the entirety of Prince William County, Virginia; and

June 22, 2021
Regular Meeting
Ord. No. 21-
Page Two

WHEREAS, to amend the existing Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District, the Board must adopt an amended ordinance; and

WHEREAS, in order to amend the existing Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District, the Board must adopt an amended ordinance, after publication of notice of its intent to do so, which: 1) establishes the boundaries of the proposed amended district, as well as, the boundaries of any areas within the amended district which are to be excluded; 2) describes the services proposed within the amended district; 3) describes the proposed plan for providing these services within the amended district; and 4) describes the benefits which can be expected by providing this service within the amended district; and

WHEREAS, the Board authorized a public hearing to amend this ordinance on May 18, 2021, by Resolution Number (Res. No.) 21-300; and

WHEREAS, notice of public hearing on the proposed amendment of the Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District to include surveillance and outreach for Spotted Lanternfly and other pests was advertised in newspapers of general circulation in the County and a public hearing was held by the Board on June 22, 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the Prince William Board of County Supervisors hereby amends the Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District Ordinance to include surveillance and outreach for Spotted Lanternfly and any future pests identified by the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Votes:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent from Vote:

Absent from Meeting:

For Information:

Director of Public Works

ATTEST: _____
Clerk to the Board



STAFF REPORT

Board Meeting Date:	June 22, 2021
Agenda Title:	Amend the Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District Ordinance to Include Surveillance and Outreach for Spotted Lanternfly and Pests Identified by the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Requested Action:	Amend the Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District Ordinance to Include Surveillance and Outreach for Spotted Lanternfly and Pests Identified by the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
Department / Agency Lead:	Department of Public Works
Staff Lead:	Thomas J. Smith, Director

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Prince William Board of County Supervisors (Board) has previously approved an ordinance on April 30, 1992, to create a Service District for the purpose of treating and controlling Gypsy Moth infestations and, through subsequent amendments, added treatment for Mosquitoes, Fall Cankerworms, and surveillance and outreach for Emerald Ash Borer, Asian Longhorned Beetle, Thousand Cankers Disease, Sudden Oak Death, and Oak Splendor Beetle. Pests are added in accordance with a determination by the Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) that an insect is a serious pest and requires monitoring and possible control at the local level.

Public Works staff have been monitoring the spread of a fairly new forest pest, Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) since its introduction into Virginia in 2018. The County's Mosquito and Forest Pest Management Branch has identified SLF as a potential serious threat to the trees and forest resources of Prince William County as it is known to feed on and cause decline in over 100 different tree species. VDACS has issued quarantines for the movement of goods throughout the known range of SLF in Virginia. Public outreach and early detection monitoring by Public Works staff could slow the spread of SLF, assist residents in identifying treatment options, and aid targeted eradication efforts. SLF was confirmed in Prince William County on March 30, 2021.

Staff recommends the Board amend the Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District Ordinance to include surveillance and outreach for Spotted Lanternfly and pests identified by the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

BACKGROUND

Spotted Lanternfly was first introduced in Virginia in January 2018, in the City of Winchester and Frederick County. Since its introduction and subsequent spread, a population was confirmed in the County on March 30, 2021.

In 2019, SLF was added to the list of pests identified by the VDACS Commissioner and a quarantine zone for transportation of certain regulated articles to the aforementioned jurisdictions. The Board authorized surveillance and outreach for selected pests from the pests identified by the VDACS Commissioner in 2012 with the approval of Ordinance Number (Ord. No.) 12-58. SLF has since been added to the approved list of pests and an amendment to the ordinance is required to spend levy funds on SLF and other pests on the list.

Spotted Lanternfly continues to expand its range in Virginia and the surrounding states. Early detection of pests through surveillance and educating the public is the best means of slowing the spread of new, invasive pests, and can aid in initial eradication efforts upon arrival.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board amend the Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District Ordinance to include surveillance and outreach for Spotted Lanternfly and pests identified by the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Service Level / Policy Impact

The approval of Ord. No. 12-58 by the Board allowed Public Works staff to create an existing network of surveillance sites and equipment for forest pest monitoring. Because Ord. No. 12-58 contained a specific list of pests, Board action is required to begin surveillance and education for Spotted Lanternfly and other pests identified on the list.

With the approval of the amendment to the Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District Ordinance, Public Works staff will be able to use existing staff and resources to monitor and educate for Spotted Lanternfly and other identified pests to mitigate impact on the County's forest resources and bolster early detection efforts.

Fiscal Impact

Surveillance and outreach can be covered under existing Mosquito and Forest Pest Management service district funds and staffing. The estimated annual costs for these activities are less than \$4,000 and staff will be able to incorporate survey sites with existing activities and outreach.

Legal Impact

Section 15.2-2400 of the VA Code permits the Board to create service districts by ordinance which includes the control of pests which have been identified by the VDACS Commissioner. A public hearing was authorized on May 18, 2021, by Resolution Number (Res. No.) 21-300, and was advertised once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks. Amending the Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District by adding SLF and other pests identified by the Commissioner is within the Board's authority.

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Nathaniel Nagle | (703) 792-5737
nnagle@pwcgov.org



PRINCE WILLIAM
COUNTY

Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District Ordinance Amendment

June 22, 2021

**Nathaniel Nagle
Public Works
Environmental Services Division
Mosquito & Forest Pest Mgmt. Branch**

Mosquito & Forest Pest Management



- Survey and manage populations of:

- Mosquitoes
- Gypsy Moth
- Fall Cankerworm



- Survey and provide outreach for:

- Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)
- Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB)
- Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD)
- Sudden Oak Death (SOD)



Asian Longhorned Beetle - Adult Female

- Over 11,500 individual surveys conducted in 2020 alone

Background

- Invasive Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) introduced in Virginia in 2018
- Potential pest of County's forest resources
- City of Winchester and Frederick, Clarke, and Warren counties under State quarantine



Current Situation



- SLF expanding range in Virginia and surrounding states
- Not currently authorized by Prince William BOCS for Mosquito and Forest Pest Management Service District
- Early detection key for slowing the spread and eradication efforts
- Dozens of high-risk locations have already been identified throughout the County

Recommendation



- Approve amendment to Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Service District
- Begin immediate surveillance for SLF
- Evaluate and monitor, as needed, new pests identified by the Commissioner of VDACS