

could devastate our beautiful wooded community in one or two years. Residents should do what they can to protect their trees themselves because SHLOA's good faith efforts to protect your trees and prevent costly property damage have been thwarted by the minority despite SHLOA's best efforts. SHLOA has appealed the WVDOA's decision to terminate spraying for 2024; however, a decision on the appeal had not been received prior to publication of this newsletter. SHLOA's deposit will be returned by the WVDOA if our appeal is denied and 2024 treatment does not occur. The Association can reapply for treatment in 2025.

Unfortunately, this infestation will likely not go away on its own. All the literature points to probable wide-spread defoliation and resulting tree mortality. **The cost to individual owners for removal of dead and dying trees can be thousands of dollars per year, and the risk of wildfires could increase exponentially due to increased fuel load.** It is expected, but hopefully not certain, that damage will be evident throughout our community this summer/fall. Should you as an owner want to opt-in or opt-out of possible treatment in the spring of 2024 (contingent on appeal outcome) or 2025, please fill out the form below and mail or email it to SHLOA at the address indicated ASAP. Thank you.

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Sleepy Hollow Lot Owners Association Gypsy Moth Treatment opt-in, opt-out Form (Please Print)	
NAME: _____	
MAILING ADDRESS: _____	
SH PROPERTY ADDRESS: _____	
SECTION(S) & LOT(S) #: _____	
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____	
TELEPHONE NUMBER _____	
MARK <u>ONE</u> OPTION BOX FOR YOUR PROPERTY(S), 2024-25	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
YES, I AUTHORIZE TREATMENT	NO, I DO NOT AUTHORIZE TREATMENT
OWNER'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____	
Please mail or email the completed form to: SHLOA 65 Audubon Road Hedgesville, WV 25427 Email: Sleepyhollowhoawv@yahoo.com	

Please attend the Annual Membership Meeting in June for more information on Gypsy Moth infestation and treatment options. These invasive pests pose an existential threat to our community and property values. Hope is not a strategy; we need to hear your views and ideas on addressing this serious threat.