



## Tree Banding Helps Prevent Winter Moth Damage in Spring

Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2008

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – Now is the time to band tree trunks to avoid winter moth damage in the spring. By banding the trunk of a tree with a sticky adhesive in the fall, homeowners can trap and prevent flightless female winter moths from walking up a tree to lay eggs in branches. This practice will help reduce infestations of hungry caterpillars and avoid the use of a pesticide.

Winter moths are smooth, green caterpillars that hang down from trees in late spring and early summer once they have eaten blossoms and leaves from Garry Oak, ornamental and fruit trees.

To band a tree, tightly wrap plastic cling wrap around a tree three times at about chest height. Seal the top and bottom of the plastic to the tree with electrician's tape. On top of the wrap, apply a non-toxic, sticky garden adhesive in a 15 cm (6 inch) width around the tree. The traps can be removed and disposed of in January.

Parks staff will be available to demonstrate tree banding tomorrow morning at Beacon Hill Park.

What: Demonstrations: Tree Banding to Prevent Winter Moth  
When: Thursday, November 20, 2008, between 10 a.m. and noon  
Where: Beacon Hill Park Maintenance Yard (Check in at office upon arrival.)

In February, the City of Victoria became the first municipality in the Capital Region to adopt a bylaw to regulate the cosmetic use of pesticide on public and private property. Enforcement of the City's bylaw will begin in January 2009 with a focus on public education. A series of organic gardening workshops is planned for the spring. For more information, visit: [www.victoria.ca/pesticide\\_reduction](http://www.victoria.ca/pesticide_reduction)

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### For More Information:

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