

Treatment Area: The pesticide treatment area is marked with signs at every entry point around its edge. Although the pesticide being applied (glyphosate) has a low acute toxicity for people and animals, it is wise to reduce your and your pet's exposure. Please avoid the treatment area until the pesticide signs are taken down. If necessary, however, staying on the designated pathways will reduce exposure to pesticide.



Dog-strangling vine plants with mature seed pods



Dog-strangling vine flowers



Sponge wipe "wicking" method of herbicide application

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) requires warning signs to be posted 24 hours in advance of treatments and to be left in place for 48 hours after treatments are completed. Therefore, signs may remain in place at one site for several days. Treatment dates on signs indicate when pesticide is being applied.

Species: City of Toronto's Forestry branch is managing this forest by controlling invasive plant species in this area.

The species being treated is **dog-strangling vine**, a herbaceous weed that forms dense colonies. Dog-strangling vine impacts native plants and habitat by:

- crowding out and smothering native vegetation and young trees
- decreasing survival of monarch butterfly larvae by mimicking native milkweeds
- increasing selective grazing on remaining native vegetation by deer and other browsing animals
- decreasing abundance of insects and pollinators
- reducing habitat for grassland birds.

Pesticide: A glyphosate-based pesticide has proven to be an effective control. Plants absorb glyphosate, which inhibits the production of a protein required for plant growth, causing the plants to die within two weeks of application.

Method: Licensed applicators are applying the pesticide directly on individual plants. The entire treatment area is not broadcast sprayed. This labour-intensive method of control ensures that other desirable plants are not affected and that very small quantities of pesticide are used.

Legislation: The Cosmetic Pesticide Ban, Regulation 63/09 under the Pesticides Act, allows some exceptions for non-cosmetic use of pesticides including a forestry exemption. The use of pesticides in forestry is essential to protect trees from competing vegetation in the maintenance or establishment of a forest. For more information about the Ontario Legislation call 416-325-4000 or visit www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/land/pesticides.

For more information about City of Toronto Forestry Management, please call the phone number provided on the Treatment Area Signs or visit www.toronto.ca/trees.