

Burlap banding is an effective way to reduce the number of European Gypsy Moth – *Lymantria dispar dispar* (LDD) larvae on trees.

Once caterpillars grow to about one inch (2.5 cm) in length by mid-June, they will move down the tree trunk to seek shelter from predators and heat. You can take advantage of this behaviour by making a burlap barrier band trap on the trees in your yard.

1. Wrap and secure a piece of burlap cloth around the stem(s) of your tree.
2. Tie twine/rope around the centre or slightly below the centre of the burlap.
3. Drape the burlap cloth over the twine/rope so there is an overhang where the caterpillars can crawl underneath to seek shelter during the day.
4. Check the trap by lifting the overhanging burlap cloth every afternoon and collect any hiding caterpillars and soak them in soapy water for 48 hours prior to disposing of them in the garbage. Wearing gloves while handling the caterpillars is recommended to avoid any skin irritations or reactions.



Visit the [York Region website](#) and the [Province of Ontario's website](#) for more information.