



March 13, 2023

Attn: Landowners and Property Managers in Port Coquitlam

Re: Request to treat turf areas and high-risk landscape beds for *Popillia japonica*, Japanese Beetle

Popillia japonica (Japanese beetle) is a regulated, invasive pest that was first detected in B.C. in Vancouver in 2017. The larvae feeds on turfgrass roots, killing the plants. The adult beetle feeds on the foliage of over 300 species of plants and can cause extensive defoliation. This species presents a significant risk to lawns, parks, green space and farms. Since 2018, a coordinated effort to eradicate *P. japonica* from neighbourhoods it has been discovered in has led to a 98% decrease in *P. japonica* numbers. While this a significant success, unfortunately *P. japonica* beetles have now been discovered in Port Coquitlam and we are asking for your help to support our response.

The British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and Food is leading the effort to eradicate *P. japonica* because of the potential harm it poses to natural, urban and farm environments, and the impact that could have on communities and the economy. Larvicidal treatment of turf grass to target *P. japonica* in the larvae stage is the recommended method of control and one that has led to success in Vancouver. One treatment will occur this summer on City-owned parks, medians, boulevards and some landscape beds within the treatment area using the larvicide Acelepryn.

To complement these efforts, we are asking private landowners with properties located in the 2023 Port Coquitlam Treatment Area to give permission for treatment on their property, at no cost, by certified applicators during the summer of 2023.

The chosen larvicide, Acelepryn, is registered for this use by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency and will be applied to your turf by licensed professionals. The larvicide targets root-eating grubs of *P. japonica*, and will not harm people, pets, mammals, birds, bees, butterflies or other animals. One application of Acelepryn per year between April 1 and July 15 (before turf dries out, and before the majority of *P. japonica* eggs hatch) is all that is required. Costs of this treatment will be covered by the B.C. government and project partners.

If you have received this letter and your property is located within the 2023 Port Coquitlam Treatment Area (See next page), please contact one of the following applicators, who are familiar with the *P. japonica* program, to arrange for a no-cost treatment of your property. These companies may also reach out directly to residents in the treatment area to seek permission to conduct treatment.

- Bartlett Tree Experts: Phone (604) 322-1375, Email: burnabyoffice@bartlett.com
- Para Space Landscaping: Phone (604) 291-2800, Email: gardening@paraspacelandscaping.com

The response to *Popillia japonica* is a coordinated effort between the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the B.C. Government, the Cities of Vancouver, Burnaby, Port Coquitlam and Richmond, the Invasive Species Council of British Columbia and the B.C. Landscape and Nursery Association. More information about Japanese Beetle can be found at: www.gov.bc.ca/japanesebeetle and <https://www.portcoquitlam.ca/city-services/pets-wildlife/japanese-beetle-treatment/>

We hope you are willing to give permission for treatment on your private turf. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at Tracy.Hueppelsheuser@gov.bc.ca or 778-666-0519. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Tracy Hueppelsheuser, Provincial Entomologist

2023 Port Coquitlam *Popillia Japonica* (JB) Treatment Area Map

