

A re you relocating from an area infested with gypsy moth to a noninfested area? If so you need to know about a regulation that exists which helps to prevent the spread of this pest to other areas.

Gypsy moths can do a lot of damage to landscapes. Relocating employees can unintentionally carry gypsy moth eggs with them when they travel which results in the spreading of the moth into noninfested areas. Failure to inspect outdoor household articles for this pest prior to movement from a regulated area is in violation of U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) quarantine regulations and may result in significant civil penalties. The relocating employee is responsible for ensuring that certain outdoor household articles (articles associated with a household that have been kept/used outside the home) don't move the gypsy moth. Some of the outdoor household articles that may carry the gypsy moth include (but are not limited to) the following: recreational or camping items, barrels, washing machines, trash cans, outdoor doormats, water hoses, firewood, garden tools, toolboxes, grills, animal houses, lawnmowers, patio furniture, playhouses, swing sets, and bicycles. Below is a list of states that have been identified by USDA as generally infested areas.

The gypsy moth generally infests the entire states of Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Parts (only certain counties/cities) of the following states are generally infested: Indiana, Maine, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

The carrier selected to move the household goods shipment will be able to provide you with information as to what needs to be done to certify that your shipment has been inspected. You can find information on the gypsy moth at www.aphis.usda.gov.

For more information, please contact:

Carla McFarland Phone: 816-823-3646 Fax: 816-823-3656 E-mail: carla.young@gsa.gov

## PREPAYMENT AUDIT OF TRANSPORTATION BILLS NOW MANDATORY

On October 1, 2000, it became mandatory for Federal Agencies to conduct a prepayment audit of all transportation billings (see 42 CFR 102-118 for exceptions). If your agency has not yet submitted a prepayment audit plan for approval to GSA's Audit Division, please contact:

Deborah Crockett Phone: 202-501-3500 Fax: 202-501-3008 E-mail: deborah.crockett@gsa.gov

For more information on prepayment audits, please visit the Transportation Audits website at **fss.gsa.gov/transaudit**.

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