Docusign Envelope ID: 5EF2633B-80EB-864F-829F-BD13376D4F8E

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE SPONGY MOTH EMERGENCY QUARANTINE

REPEAL FOR GRAND RAPIDS, COON RAPIDS, STAY FOR MAPLEWOOD.

November 1, 2026-June 30, 2027
version 4

Section I: Declaration of Emergency Quarantine

Whereas, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, having found that an exotic pest known as the spongy moth (*Lymantria dispar* (Linneaus)), has been detected in Minnesota and has a limited distribution at this time; and

Whereas, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture established and modified an emergency quarantine on May 1, 2026 to end on June 30, 2027 to prevent the artificial spread of spongy moth from four isolated sites located in Coon Rapids, Grand Rapids, Maplewood, and Winona, Minnesota; and

Whereas, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture in partnership with USDA, Forest Service conducts treatments of low-level spongy moth populations along the advancing population front and as such conducted spongy moth mating disruption treatments over the emergency quarantine area in Winona, Minnesota; and

Whereas, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture established an emergency quarantine for Winona on May 1, 2025 that expired on June 15, 2026; and

Whereas, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture monitors spongy moth populations annually along the expanding population front, and has intensely surveyed emergency quarantine areas and have found that populations have naturally become extinct in Coon Rapids and Grand Rapids yet a small, isolated population of spongy moth still exists within the quarantine area of Maplewood, Ramsey County Minnesota; and

Whereas, the anthropogenic movement of spongy moth is likely via the transport of yard waste, tree trimmings, branches and other outdoor household articles that may be infested with spongy moth life stages; and

Whereas, the spongy moth has the potential to weaken or kill host trees, in infested counties, cities, and townships; and

Whereas, trees of many host species are a valuable resource for the tourism, nursery, landscaping, and timber industries in Minnesota; and

Whereas, Minnesota's urban and rural forest environments are susceptible to spongy moth infestation and defoliation; and

Now, therefore, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture by the authority of Minnesota Statutes Section 18G.06 is repealing the emergency quarantine for Coon Rapids, Grand

Docusign Envelope ID: 5EF2633B-80EB-864F-829F-BD13376D4F8E

Rapids but is maintaining the quarantine in Maplewood, Minnesota to prevent the further spread of this pest and sets forth: definitions, regulated articles, quarantined areas, conditions of movement, violations and penalties, and special exemptions. This repeal and quarantine shall become effective immediately, superseded the Emergency Quarantine for City of Coon Rapids, Grand Rapids, and Maplewood that was implemented on May 1, 2026, and will remain in effect until withdrawn, superseded or expires.

Section II: Definitions

“Branch” means a secondary woody structure growing out from the trunk or limb of a tree or plant and bears foliage.

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture or his designee.

"Compliance agreement" means a written agreement between a person engaged in growing, handling, moving or receiving regulated articles, and the Commissioner to achieve compliance with this quarantine.

"Spongy Moth" ("SM") means the insect known as spongy moth, *Lymantria dispar* L., in any stage of development.

"Firewood" means wood cut to lengths less than four feet long. This includes firewood cut for personal use.

"Inspector" means an employee of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture authorized in accordance with the law to enforce the provisions of this quarantine and regulations in this subpart. A person operating under a compliance agreement is not an inspector.

“Limb” means a larger primary division of a tree extending from the main trunk.

"Log" means tree parts cut into lengths four feet or longer.

"Minnesota" means the State of Minnesota.

"Move" ("moved", "movement") means shipped, transported, carried; held or offered for shipment, transport or carriage; received for shipment, transport or carriage; or allowed to be shipped, transported or carried.

"Outdoor household articles" means articles associated with a household that have been kept outside the home such as awnings, barbecue grills, bicycles, boats, dog houses, firewood, garden tools, hauling trailers, outdoor furniture and toys, recreational vehicles and associated equipment, and tents.

"Person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, company, society, association, firm, governmental entity, legal entity or other organized group.

"Quarantined Area" means any portion of Minnesota listed in Section IV of this quarantine.

"Regulated Article" means any article listed under Section Ill of this quarantine.

Section III: Regulated Articles

A. Regulated articles are as follows:

1. The spongy moth, *Lymantria dispar* L., in any stage of development (egg, larva, pupa, adult).

2. Regulated articles:

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this information is available in alternative forms of communication upon request by calling 651/201-6000 . TTY users can call the Minnesota Relay Service at 711 or 1-800-627-3529. The MDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

Docusign Envelope ID: 5EF2633B-80EB-864F-829F-BD13376D4F8E

a. Trees and shrubs with roots and persistent woody stems, unless they are greenhouse grown throughout the year.
b. Firewood, logs, woody limbs and branches over 4" in diameter.
    A. All species of ash, *Fraxinus*, are excluded
c. Any other outdoor household articles, or means of conveyance, of any character whatsoever, when it is determined by an inspector that any life stage of spongy moth is in proximity to such articles and the articles present a high risk of artificial spread of spongy moth infestation. Outdoor articles include but are not limited to: outdoor furniture, dog houses, garden tools, tents, awnings, campers, boats, trailers, and recreational vehicles.

Section IV: Quarantined Areas as identified on MDA's website
www.mda.state.mn.us/spongymothregs

A) The central portion of the City of Maplewood, Minnesota, Ramsey County. See appendix 1

Section V: Restrictions on Regulated Articles

A) Regulated articles and outdoor household articles from the isolated infested areas shall not be moved from the quarantined area to a non-quarantined area until June 30, 2027 unless the regulated article has been inspected, treated or subject to special handling under a compliance agreement.

Section VI: Penalties

A) Any person violating these quarantine regulations is subject to the civil penalties up to $7,500.00 per day of violation or misdemeanor penalties set forth in Minnesota Statutes Sections 1BJ.10 and may be subject to criminal penalties set forth in Minnesota Statutes Sections 1BJ.11.

Section VII: Special Exemptions

A) The Commissioner may allow, with written approval, the movement of spongy moth, in any living stage of development, into or within Minnesota for research purposes

B) The Commissioner may allow, with written approval, the movement of regulated articles, into Minnesota, after proper documentation has been provided to the Commissioner.

This Notice, Repeal and State Emergency Quarantine are effective November 1, 2026. The State Emergency quarantine for Maplewood, Minnesota will expire on June 30th, 2027.

Signed by:
Thom Petersen
4109BAE109E047C...

Thom Petersen
Commissioner
Minnesota Department of Agriculture

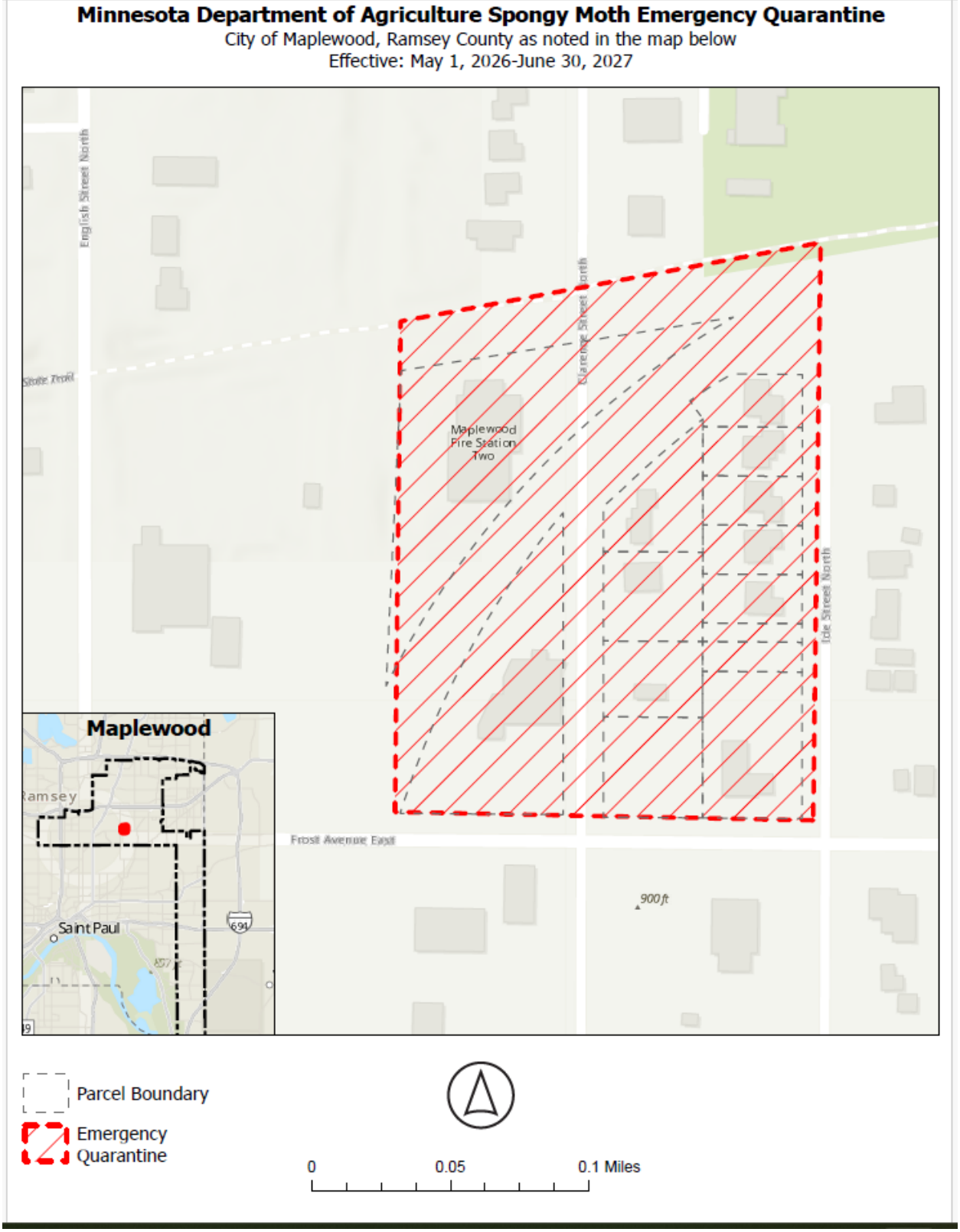
November 1, 2026
Effective on

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this information is available in alternative forms of communication upon request by calling 651/201-6000 . TTY users can call the Minnesota Relay Service at 711 or 1-800-627-3529. The MDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

Docusign Envelope ID: 5EF2633B-80EB-864F-829F-BD13376D4F8E

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

APPENDIX 1- **City of Maplewood, Minnesota, Ramsey County.**



625 Robert St. N., St Paul, MN 55155-2538 651-201-6000 or 1-800-967-2474 www.mda.state.mn.us

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this information is available in alternative forms of communication upon request by calling 651/201-6000 . TTY users can call the Minnesota Relay Service at 711 or 1-800-627-3529. The MDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.