

Aerial Spraying for Black Flies (biting gnats)

By Becky Bartlett

EASTON - On Thursday, July 15, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will conduct an aerial spraying for black flies (biting gnats) in Northampton and Lehigh counties along the Lehigh River from Allentown to Easton.

The aerial spraying will utilize a helicopter to apply Vectobac 12AS (also known as B.t.i.). The helicopter used for this operation will be a red Bell 205 helicopter with yellow striping, tail # N638HA. The aircraft is operated by Helicopter Applicators of Gettysburg, PA. DEP personnel will be on site at all landing zones managing the operation.

Vectobac 12AS is manufactured by Valent Biosciences. It is a thick brown liquid resembling chocolate milk and has a fish odor to it. The B.t.i. material is a naturally occurring bacteria (*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*) which kills the immature, or larval, form of the black fly when they feed on it in the waterways. B.t.i. is not toxic to fish or other macroinvertebrates found in the treated waterways and it degrades quickly in the environment.

This work does NOT involve a helicopter spraying over the entire county. This work is targeted to portions of specifically mentioned waterways. The helicopter will apply B.t.i. to designated areas every few miles along the treated waterways. Application is done by first circling the area to look for people on the ground or obstructions in the air. Then, the helicopter will fly perpendicular to the water flow (whenever possible), and apply the B.t.i.

Black flies are considered a pest which can inundate people seeking outdoor recreation in the warmer months, especially around rivers and streams.



558 Lake Minsi Drive
Bangor, PA 18013

610-588-0222



HOT JULY SAVINGS

On Specially Marked:

- Spring & Summer Items
- Annuals
- Perennials
- Shrubs

HOURS:

THURSDAY - SATURDAY 9-5, SUNDAY 9-3.
CLOSED: MONDAY-TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY!

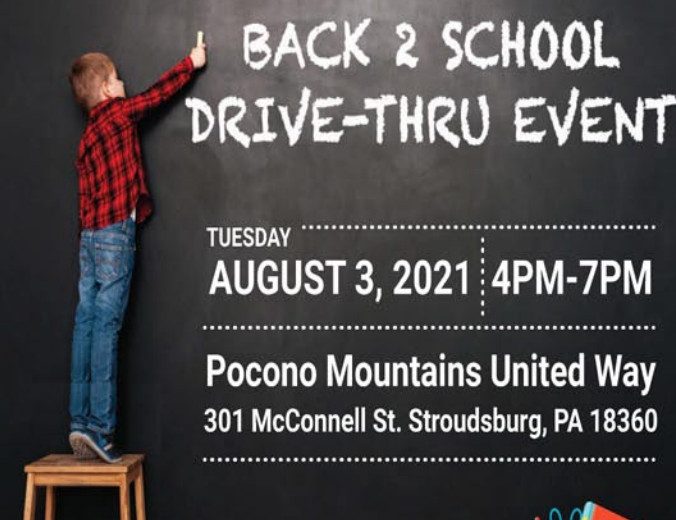
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PHYSICAL THERAPY
AT StLuke's

Call your therapist today or visit stlukespt.com.

Most insurances are covering virtual therapy.



TUESDAY
AUGUST 3, 2021 4PM-7PM

Pocono Mountains United Way
301 McConnell St. Stroudsburg, PA 18360

GIVEAWAYS

Backpacks, face masks, school supplies, sunglasses, oral health kits, books, lunch bags, water bottles, and hand sanitizing wipes will be given to the first 500 attendees.

A parent or guardian must be present with child(ren) to receive the supplies. Must remain in car during event. For more information call 570-517-3958.



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