TOWNSHIP OF DENNIS

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WORKSESSION AGENDA

APRIL 12, 2022

5:30 P.M. (prevailing time)

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor's announcement: The notice requirements provided for in the "Open Public Meetings Act" have been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given in Resolution No. 2021-184 entitled the Annual Meeting Notice which was adopted by the Dennis Township Committee on December 14, 2021. A meeting notice has been published and posted in accordance with the act.

FLAG SALUTE:

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS PRESENT:

____ VanArtsdalen, T; ____Germanio, F; ____ Cox, M; ____Turner, S.; ____ Matalucci, Z

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS OR DISCUSSIONS:

None.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS AND PROJECT UPDATES:

Administration & Finance:

Discuss Board of Health.

Update on the 2022 Gypsy Moth Program.

Discuss Inspira Health Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on May 6, 2022 in Belleplain.

Discuss the Chestnut Street Park.

Discuss take you kid to work day – 04/28/2022.

Discuss Polling Places.

Legal: None.

Public Buildings & Grounds: Discuss purchase of a Packer Truck.

Engineering: None.

Construction/Plan/Zone: None.

RESOLUTIONS:

None.

ORDINANCES:

None.

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING:

TOWNSHIP OF DENNIS
COUNTY OF CAPE MAY – STATE OF NEW JERSEY
571 Petersburg Road, P.O. Box 204
Dennisville, NJ 08214
(609)861-9700

Resident Notification for the 2022 Gypsy Moth Control Program

Gypsy moth egg mass surveys, conducted by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, indicate that gypsy moth populations will be very high during May and June 2022. Leaf feeding by the caterpillars of this pest will cause severe defoliation of many of our trees. Consequently, the municipality has entered into a cooperative control program with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and the United States Forest Service. This program is being operated on an integrated approach, utilizing a pesticide with a naturally occurring active ingredient to reduce defoliating populations of this forest pest. The aerial spraying will be employed around residential and recreational areas to reduce tree loss, while natural control agents will be encouraged to reduce pest levels in remote, uninhabited areas.

In your area, only the biological insecticide, Bacillus thuringiensis var. kurstaki (FORAY 76B, EPA Reg. #73049-49) will be applied by aircraft at a dosage rate of 38 B.I.U.'s (64 oz.) per acre by Downstown Airport Inc. (DEP Lic. #90029A) 339 Harding Highway, Vineland, NJ. The spray operation is expected to begin on or after May 3, 2022 through June 3, 2022 or until completion. The exact date of application will depend on climatic conditions and the development of the caterpillars and trees in your area. A municipal "contact person" (Jacqueline Justice, Municipal Clerk) may be reached at (609)861-9700 x223, 571 Petersburg Road, Dennisville, NJ to answer any questions you may have about the exact timing and dates of treatment.

To ensure precise placement of the spray material, aircraft will conduct treatments only when there is little or no wind. Daily spray operations normally are conducted early in the morning between 5:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and possibly between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. in the evening. However, **no** pesticide application for gypsy moth control will take place between 7:45 a.m. and 8:45 a.m.

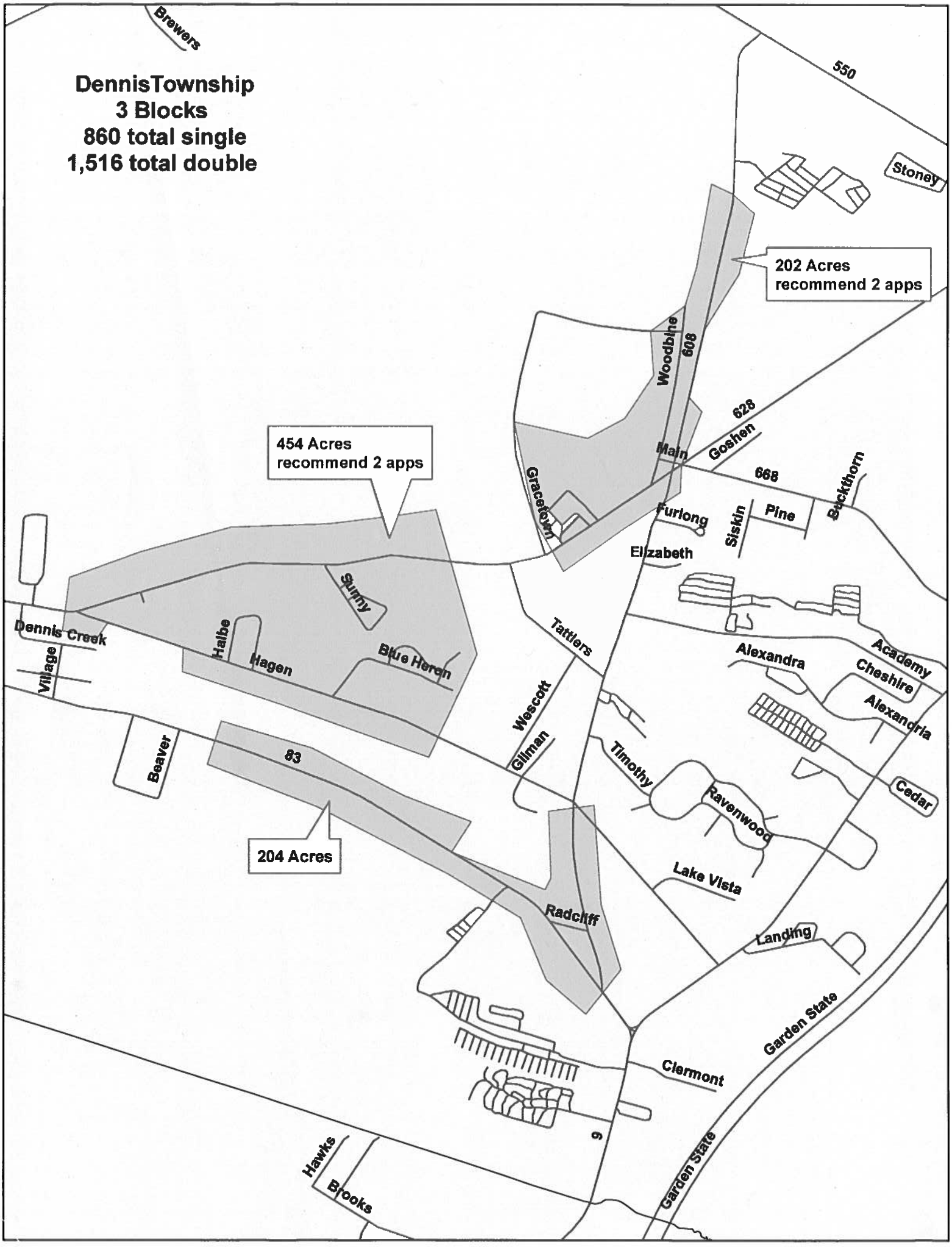
Although B.t.k. use has very minimal risk to humans or wildlife, individuals wishing **no exposure** to either themselves or their children, before or after this one hour "spray shutdown" time should remain indoors during the treatment. If you must go outside, wear rain gear or use an umbrella to prevent contact with the spray material, especially if you hear the aircraft working in your area.

Trained personnel from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and our municipality will assist in the program. Pilots will be carefully briefed to insure that the spray material is being applied in the proper areas as directed.

The program is being conducted to protect and preserve the municipalities and your valuable shade tree resources. Your understanding and cooperation will be very much appreciated.

Individuals wishing additional information about pesticides may contact the National Pesticide Information Center at 1-800-858-7378. For emergencies call the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System at 1-800-222-1222. For pesticide regulation information, pesticide complaints and health referrals call the New Jersey Pesticide Control Program at 609-984-6568.

Upon request, the pesticide applicator or applicator business shall provide a resident with notification 12 hours prior to the application, except for Quarantine and Disease Vector Control only, when conditions necessitate pesticide applications sooner than that time. Additional information about the program is also available on the New Jersey Department of Agriculture's website at:
http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/gypsymoth.html


DennisTownship
3 Blocks
860 total single
1,516 total double
Brewers
550
Stoney
202 Acres
recommend 2 apps
Woodbine
608
628
Goshen
Main
668
Buckthorn
Pine
Siskin
Furlong
Elizabeth
Gracetown
454 Acres
recommend 2 apps
Sunny
Halbe
Hagen
Blue Heron
Dennis Creek
Village
Tattlers
Academy
Alexandra
Cheshire
Alexandria
Wescott
Gilman
Timothy
Ravenwood
Cedar
Beaver
83
204 Acres
Lake Vista
Radcliff
Landing
Garden State
Clermont
9
Hawks
Brooks

MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NEW JERSEY COOPERATIVE GYPSY MOTH SUPPRESSION PROGRAM

Q: Why is the Department involved in gypsy moth control programs?

A: The gypsy moth, in its caterpillar stage, is the most destructive hardwood defoliator ever to occur in New Jersey. Each year, since 1970, gypsy moth caterpillars have caused varying degrees of defoliation (leaf loss) between 1,910 - 800,000 acres of forest land. Study plots established in repeatedly defoliated forests show oak tree mortality varying between 15 to 65 percent.

Q: How does the control program work?

A: Municipalities with heavy infestations of gypsy moths, as delineated by a summer aerial defoliation survey, are contacted in writing by the Department in early fall and asked if they wish to have a gypsy moth egg mass count. This is done to determine if the infestation will continue and what areas qualify for the spray program. If the residential or recreational forest has as average of more than 500 egg masses per acre and is at least 50 acres in size it may qualify for participation in the cooperative gypsy moth suppression program. Municipal participation in the aerial spray program is completely voluntary.

In addition to delineating treatment areas, the Department also applies for U.S.D.A. Forest Service cost sharing funds which, if approved, results in up to 50 percent reimbursement of the treatment cost for the participating municipalities. The Department is also responsible for choosing the insecticide to be sprayed and in supervising the actual spray operation.

Q: What is the name of the insecticide used in the treatment program, and how does it work?

A: The biological insecticide used in the gypsy moth spray program is named *Bacillus thuringiensis, B.t.*. It is a highly selective bacterium that when eaten by the gypsy moth caterpillar, enters the stomach, and rapidly multiplies causing a paralysis of the stomach wall which stops the caterpillar from feeding. Death usually occurs within 5 to 7 days. The insecticide is most effective against the smaller caterpillars so proper timing of the spray is extremely important to get the best results.

Q: Why aren't chemical insecticides being used in the Department's gypsy moth spray program?

A: Chemical insecticides may adversely affect beneficial insects, such as honeybees and/or aquatic insects, *B.t.* however does not. This biological insecticide only affects leaf feeding insects and is considered safe for people and pets. For this reason, the Department strictly uses this material in its Gypsy Moth Spray Program. This materials use has greater acceptance by the public because of this low toxicity toward non-target organisms especially in highly residential areas. It does not provide the same degree of caterpillar reduction as the chemical insecticides, but in more than 70 percent of the cases, satisfactory foliage protection is obtained. This protection is sufficient to prevent tree mortality and thus fulfills the Department's primary objective.

Q: Is there any alternative to spraying?

A: The New Jersey Department of Agriculture is recognized as a leader in promoting the use of biological control measures against a variety of agricultural and forest pests. For many years the Department reared and released millions of parasites and predators of the gypsy moth in order to establish a means of natural control. In some regions of the state, these parasites and predators have worked very well in stabilizing gypsy moth populations for many years. By selectively spraying only residential and recreational area, (treating only a small portion of the entire infestation), we are allowing these natural predators and parasites every opportunity to control the growth of gypsy moth populations. However, where epidemic numbers of the gypsy moth exist, the natural enemies cannot prevent heavy defoliation, in these areas, aerial sprays are recommended on a selective basis. Various mechanical control measures, such as egg mass removal or adult moth trapping may have some value at low population levels (less than 10 egg masses per acre) but have little effect when populations are high (520 egg masses per acre or more).

Q: What do gypsy moth caterpillars like to feed on?

A: The gypsy moth feeds on a wide variety of trees, which include oak, maple, birch, beech willow, and hickory. The larger caterpillars also have been known to feed on pine, spruce, hemlock and many common ornamentals. Trees that are rarely attacked by the gypsy moth larvae include tulip poplar, ash, dogwood, rhododendron and cedar.

Q: What causes increases and decreases in gypsy moth populations?

A: The gypsy moth first began defoliating New Jersey forests in 1966. Three major population cycles have occurred, one in 1972 when 256,000 acres were defoliated, another in 1981 when 798,000 acres were defoliated, and another in 1990 when 431,000 acres were defoliated.

A cycle is completed when after years of steady build-up, the larval populations peak and dramatically crash the following season. This is caused by starvation, along with fungal and viral outbreaks, which have reduced populations from 80 to 90 percent in certain areas. Parasites and predators also help to keep gypsy moth populations at low levels in conjunction with these fungal and viral outbreaks. These periods of stable low gypsy moth populations may last for five years or more.

Q: What can a homeowner do to be included in the Department's Cooperative Gypsy Moth Suppression Program?

A: Since there are certain legal and fiscal requirements for participation in the aerial spray program, the Department can only work with local municipal governments. However, when a municipality requests an egg mass survey, we send Department inspectors to the municipal building to pick up a map and request locations of complaints of gypsy moth damage. The homeowner can play an active role in this process by requesting that your municipal officials ask the Department for a gypsy moth egg mass survey and filing a written complaint about the location of these gypsy moth infestations with your municipality by early September. Follow up this letter with another request in late December to determine if your area was indeed included in a spray block and if your municipality is participating in the cooperative program.

If your area contains high populations of the gypsy moth and your municipality either decided not to participate in the voluntary program, or your area did not qualify for the program (because of insufficient acreage), you may contact private spray applicators to have your area sprayed during early spring. The best time to spray for gypsy moth caterpillar control is in early May (from May 1 to the 31st), depending on the insecticide to be used and the larval development. In general, the caterpillars should be about ½ inch long and the foliage should be at least 1/3 grown when sprays are to be applied. If you decide to treat your own property for gypsy moth control be sure to use only those insecticides labeled for the control of gypsy moths and follow the directions on the label carefully.

FACT SHEET

Bacillus thuringiensi svar. kurstaki, (B.t.k.)
Used in the Gypsy Moth Aerial Spray Program

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture will again be offering to participating municipalities the biological insecticide *Bacillus thuringiensis var. kurstaki, (B.t.k.)* in the 2021 Gypsy Moth Cooperative Suppression Program.

TOXICOLOGY

B.t.k. is among the least toxic insecticides for use in residential areas to control the gypsy moth. Its active ingredient is a bacterium, which occurs naturally in the environment *B.t.k.* has a high specific mode of action in controlling caterpillars and has shown no toxicity to mammals, fish of other wildlife at the recommended field rates. However, those individuals wishing a near zero exposure to themselves or their children during the spray operation, should stay indoors for at least 10 –20 minutes, or use an umbrella to intercept the fine spray mist is outdoors when the aircraft passes.

BIOLOGICAL EFFECTIVENESS

B.t.k. must be ingested by the gypsy moth caterpillar to be effective; therefore, larval mortality is not immediate and may take up to ten days for mortality to occur. Generally, the new dosage rates of *B.t.k.* used by the Department of Agriculture provide good foliage protection and population control. However, proper timing is critical since the larger caterpillars are harder to kill, therefore, extensive shutdowns, for any reason, could reduce the effectiveness of the pesticide.

ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY

B.t.k. will be applied at a dose of 38 B.I.U.'s (64 oz.) per acre by aircraft. The cost of aerial treatments varies between $50.00-$65.00 per acre depending on the dosage rate, geographical location and size of the treatment blocks. The New Jersey Department of Agriculture and the local municipality are currently sharing this cost. Only spray programs utilizing New Jersey Department of Agriculture prescribed insecticides and under State supervision are eligible for these cost-sharing funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

B.t.k. has a residual life of less than 10 days and has little or no impact on non-target organisms. *B.tk* residues do not present a hazard, and sprays can be applied near water or over garden crops without causing adverse effects.

Take Our Kids to Work Day Best Practices

The fourth Thursday of April is designated as Take Our Kids to Work Day. Forbes magazine reports an estimated 37 million Americans in over 3.5 million workplaces participate each year. The day may include one-on-one job shadowing, facility visits, and hands-on non-hazardous work experience. If you think your child is perfectly safe shadowing you at work for a day, think again, incidents can and have happened to children in the workplace.

Now is an excellent time to start planning to ensure a safe and successful event, best practices should include:

- Develop a list of age-appropriate activities related to the type of work performed at your workplace. Safety must be a primary consideration, but some other thoughts include:
    - What age group or groups can be safely accommodated? Will you have a minimum age for participation? Consider time frames appropriate for the different age groups (2 hours for young children, 3-4 hours for older children, & 5-6 hours for teenagers).
    - Can all departments participate? If a department can not, or will be severely limited by participating, can children from those departments attend elsewhere?
    - Considering some children may attend over multiple years, can you, as host, vary the experience?
    - What can you do to make the experience interactive while still maintaining a high level of safety for the children?
- Talk to similar workplaces to learn what went well and what they might have done differently.
- Have a written plan and schedule of activities. This will prevent freelancing by departments and facilitate incorporating what was learned from the previous years' events.
    - Start by asking yourself and the sponsoring departments to define the goal of the event. Will it be all fun and games, or will there be an instructional, service, or safety-related component?
    - Create a factsheet that can be shared with participating parents and children concerning the ground rules of the event.
    - Who will act as host/guide for the children? Each parent? A department representative who has been educated on the rules of the program? Someone else such as HR?
    - Plan a strong and interesting welcome and closing for the children. Establish expectations of behavior and consequences for not meeting those expectations. Consider having the children sign a contract as part of the day's events.

- Establish a child-to-supervisor-child ratio that is appropriate for the specific workplace. Maintain a headcount of visitors in case of emergency.
- Children should not be permitted to operate or be around moving heavy machinery.
- Children should not be permitted in the vicinity of chemicals more hazardous than household chemicals used at household levels.
- Children should not be permitted in the vicinity of hazardous operations such as working at heights, with flame or flame-producing equipment, etc.
- Children should not see confidential information such as criminal, driving, or medical records.
- Provide properly-sized personal protective equipment for tours of areas such as garages.
- Require an employee to precede the tour, inspect the area for hazards, and remove any unacceptable conditions (slippery floors, etc.) or operations (such as welding). Remind the representatives the inspection is for children, not the usual adult workforce.
- Give a morning briefing to all workers of departments hosting children for the event, which includes:
    1. Rules for the children.
    2. Awareness of adult behaviors & language when children are present.
    3. An expectation of extra vigilance for safety concerns while having children in the work area.
- Will pictures be taken? By who? Will there be any restrictions on images of children and distribution/posting following the event?
- Provide notices that the organization is participating in the celebration, especially in areas where the presence/distraction of children may impact customers.
- Have each employee who wishes to bring a child to work, sign an acknowledgment with a clear explanation of permitted and non-permitted activities.
- If the workplace can not be made safe and appropriate for children, consider hosting another activity, such as a picnic with lessons on the workplace, a poster contest, or work-related demonstrations/activities at an off-site and more appropriate facility.