

# Fall Webworms

## What are fall webworms?

Webworms are a caterpillar form of a small white moth. The moths fly around during the summer laying eggs on the underside of tree leaves. As the eggs hatch the caterpillars start to spin a web around the leaves they are on. This will continue for about six weeks and their webs can reach more than 3 feet across.



## When will they arrive?

Adults emerge from late June to mid-July and mate. Eggs are laid on the underside of leaf. These eggs hatch after about two weeks and young larvae will begin constructing a nest by webbing leaves together.

## Are they harmful?

They generally will not cause any harm to the tree or shrub. They are a pest primarily because of the unsightly nature of the web nests constructed.

## How to get rid of fall webworms

- Physical Control: Prune webbing as it appears. You can use a rake, shovel, or even a big stick. Just make sure to through the nests in the trash.
- Plant flowers that will attract webworm predators (Wasps).
  - These include sunflowers, or other plants in the daisy family.
- Use an organic insecticide. We recommend using BT or Neem (Both carried in the store)
  - These should not cause any damage to plants, people, or pets.
  - They work the best when you break a hole in the webbing first, and then spray into the webbing.

