



Idaho State Department of Agriculture

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BRAD LITTLE, GOVERNOR

CHANEL TEWALT, DIRECTOR

Dear Resident(s) living in the 2024 Caldwell Japanese Beetle Treatment Area,

This letter is to notify you that any areas containing grass in the yard of your residence are scheduled to receive treatment for Japanese beetle (JB) control this coming spring and summer. We are asking you for a record of your consent to allow granular treatment of turf on your property by following the instructions on the enclosed Consent Form, or by using the electronic Consent Form which can be accessed at agri.idaho.gov/jb.

Japanese beetles (JB) are highly invasive insects from the eastern U.S. that were unexpectedly found in large numbers in your neighborhood during summer of 2022-23. In addition to severely damaging turf during their larval stage, while feeding on grass roots, adult JB attack and can kill over 300 kinds of ornamental and crop plants, while consuming leaves, fruit, and flowers. If JB were allowed to establish in the Caldwell area, the entire state would become quarantined for the pest. This could result in numerous negative implications for Idaho's plant nursery industry, homeowners, and gardeners, and for Idaho's agricultural growers and producers.

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) has determined that eradication efforts are necessary in your neighborhood, under the provisions of the Plant Pest Act of 2002. All lawns within the prescribed treatment block will receive two granular pesticide applications targeting JB larvae, which live within the soil. ISDA is in the process of contracting a professional pest control service to conduct this at no cost to you. The first will be scheduled for mid- to late May and the second in mid-July. Ground application of granular insecticide in areas of your yard containing turf is the only action planned. Nothing will be sprayed with any liquid pesticide. Flower and vegetable gardens, bushes and trees will not be treated – only grass. All pesticides will be applied in strict accordance with label directions and all recommended safety precautions will be stringently followed.

In addition to this letter, you can expect to receive follow-up notification about treatment approximately one week before each insecticide application. At that time, you will be informed of the exact date of treatment for your property and of any preparations you should make.

The action plans that ISDA has chosen to eradicate JB in Caldwell is based on the program successfully carried out against Idaho's first JB infestation in Boise. Beetles were first discovered there in 2012 and, due to the aggressive treatment protocol were eliminated by 2019.

For more information on products used in the treatment as well as JB biology and the history of the ISDA Japanese Beetle Eradication Program, visit agri.idaho.gov/jb or contact ISDA at (208) 332-8620 or jb@isda.idaho.gov. Please look at the enclosed Consent Form and pick the most convenient way to get your record of consent to us. Please do this as soon as possible, treatment will begin in May 2024.

Thank you,