

# A Bug's Life

# Fall webworm

*Hyphantria cunea*

## Fun facts

- Native to N. America
- Caterpillars feed in large, messy silk masses at branch tips
- Caterpillars can wiggle in synchrony
- Nocturnal and attracted to light
- 2 generations per year: Injury noticed in June and September

## Identification

Eggs: Laid in mass, pale green

Caterpillar: Variable coloration, often yellow to gray with dark spots, short bristles and long hairs

Moth: White, hairy moths that may have some black or brown spots

## Host plants

- 120 species of hardwoods

## Management

- Prune out and destroy nest
- Use stick or pole to pull webbing out of trees
- Healthy trees will be okay



Photos: J. Green