

# Bagworm

Bagworms create virtually impenetrable cocoons and attach to many plants. The most common plants they feed from are arborvitae and juniper. High infestations can cause the death of the plant.

## Signs & Symptoms

- Caterpillars defoliate and weaken the plant
- Protective bags attached to the plant

## Life Cycle

- Females will lay between 500 and 1000 eggs within the bag
- Eggs will hatch in the spring - from late May to mid-June (around the time catalpa trees bloom)
- The larvae will create bags and stop feeding in mid-August
- Once the bags are formed, sprays are ineffective

## Management

- Handpick bags and destroy bags
- Chemical controls may be necessary for severe infestations. Spray while insects are young - about the time the Catalpa tree is in full bloom.



Photos Missouri Botanical Garden