

August 20, 2013

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Two Boy Scouts from Troop 183 worked toward earning their merit badges recently, thanks to the City's environmental services division, by learning how to prevent West Nile Virus.

Scouts Garrett and Clayton Fender interviewed Amber Sexton, the City's mosquito control technician. She showed them how the City traps, counts, tests, and uses preventative environmentally friendly measures to control the population of mosquitos in Burleson. Sexton stressed that the most effective way to reduce mosquito populations is to deny them a place to breed. That includes checking for standing water and breeding grounds in buckets and garbage cans; cans, bottles and jars; ornamental ponds; wading pools; holes in trees; and water in gutters and tarps, flower pots and saucers, your pet's water dish, wheel barrows, rain barrels, bird baths, toys and tires.

Sexton stressed another proactive theme, the 4 D's – Dusk and dawn, Deet, Dress and Drain. If possible avoid going outside between dusk and dawn; use insect repellants that contain Deet or any other EPA approved insect repellent; wear long, loose and light colored clothing outside during dusk and dawn hours; and, drain areas of standing water that mosquitos breed in.

The City also offers two mosquito dunks, free to residents, at the Municipal Service Center, 725 S.E. John Jones Dr. The hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday. For more about mosquito control, go to the City of Burleson website, www.burlesontx.com/mosquitocontrol.