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September 30, 2016

Mosquito trap tests positive for West Nile Virus

A positive test was found in 'Zone 5'

On September 30, 2016, the City's environmental services division was notified that a mosquito trap tested positive for West Nile virus.

The area is: Zone 5, in the area of Northwest John Jones Drive, Wilshire Boulevard, Wicker Hill Road, CR 1020 and CR 1016.

The City of Burleson will conduct ground-based spraying for mosquitoes between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. on Saturday, October 1 and then again on Sunday, October 2. The ground spraying will be performed in targeted subdivisions within the designated spray zones.

In the event of rain or if wind speeds are above 10 miles per hour, the spraying may be rescheduled.

The City has hired a private contractor to conduct the spraying. Although the product that is being sprayed from ground level produces no significant health risk, residents are still advised to take precautionary measures if spraying occurs in their neighborhood.

- Whenever possible, stay indoors during spraying.
- Some individuals are sensitive to pesticides. Persons with asthma or other respiratory conditions are encouraged to stay inside during spraying since there is a possibility that spraying could worsen these conditions.
- Central air conditioners may remain on. Persons with window unit air conditioners who wish to reduce the possibility of indoor exposure to pesticides should set the air conditioner vent to the "closed" position or choose the "recirculate" function.
- Remove children's toys, outdoor equipment and clothes from outdoor areas during spraying. If these items are exposed to pesticides, wash with soap and water before using again.
- Remove pets, along with their food and water bowls, from outdoor areas during spraying.
- Wash skin and clothing exposed to pesticides with soap and water.
- Any produce grown, stored or kept outdoors and exposed to spraying should be washed thoroughly before cooking or eating.
- Anyone experiencing adverse reactions to pesticides should seek medical care or call 911.

To further reduce the mosquito population, the City of Burleson is giving away mosquito larvicide or "dunks" to Burleson residents who would like to begin a personal mosquito-control program. "Dunks" are small tablets comprised of an environmentally-safe larvicide that specifically targets and eliminates mosquito larvae when placed in standing water for 30 – 45 days. Common examples of standing water include bird

baths, planter basins, stagnant traps, and water troughs.

The City will give away two free dunks per household to residents who come to the Municipal Service Center, 725 S.E. John Jones Dr. Residents must show proof of residency such as a utility bill or driver's license. The Municipal Service Center is open Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. The City has a limited supply and the program is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Mosquito dunks are also available at most local home, garden, and hardware stores. For more information, please call Neighborhood Services at 817-426-9832.

Residents are encouraged to defend themselves from mosquito bites by following the 4 D's. Apply insect repellent that contains DEET. DRESS in long sleeves and long pants when you are outside. Stay indoors during DUSK and DAWN hours when mosquitoes are most active. DRAIN standing water in your backyard and neighborhood – old tires, flowerpots, and clogged rain gutters are just a few examples of areas where water can stand.

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