



Town of Highland Park

News Release

For Immediate Release: August 1, 2014

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Positive West Nile Virus Mosquito Sample and Mosquito Ground Spraying

August 1, 2014 (Highland Park, Texas) – The Town of Highland Park Parks Department and Dallas County Health and Human Services monitor several mosquito traps within the town limits. Mosquito samples from each trap are tested weekly for: (1) total number of adult mosquitoes in each trap; and (2) the presence of West Nile Virus (WNV). One trap on the east side of town was found to have a positive West Nile Virus mosquito sample. In addition, the total number of mosquitoes in Quadrant A has reached the treatable threshold as established by the Town's Mosquito Control Policy; therefore, the Parks Department will conduct ground spraying measures to reduce the density of adult mosquito populations. The Town's decision to use adulticide is based on the Centers for Disease Control's recommendations that surveillance data, when combined with established thresholds, indicates a necessity to reduce the density of adult mosquito populations quickly to lower the risk of WNV.

Below is a listing of mosquito ground spraying dates, times, and locations (Quadrant Map attached):

- Friday, August 1st: 10:00 PM-5:00 AM: Truck mounted ground spraying in Quadrant A,C,D only
- Sunday, August 3rd: 10:00 PM-5:00 AM: Truck mounted ground spraying in Quadrant A,C,D only
- Monday, August 4th: 10:00 PM-5:00 AM: Truck mounted ground spraying in Quadrant A,C,D only

In the event of rain or wind speeds in excess of 10 m.p.h., the spraying will be rescheduled. Highland Park residents should remain inside and protect pets during the time the sprayers are in your area. Any pet water dishes left outside should be cleaned after spraying.

In addition to the spraying, Highland Park Public Works Department has been locating and eliminating standing water in low lying areas of public right-of-ways. Individuals are encouraged to survey their yard for any areas with standing water, such as flower pot basins, bird baths and pet dishes. Landscaping near the foundation may harbor mosquitoes during the day due to the cool, moist environment. Mosquitoes are known to be most active in the dawn and dusk periods of the day and individuals are encouraged to limit outdoor exposure during these times. Follow manufacturer's directions when using mosquito repellent or insect spray. Commercial products for yard applications are available at local home improvement stores or at Town Hall.

Town personnel are available to provide free home inspections of your yard to assist in identifying possible areas of mosquito breeding along with an inspection of yard irrigation systems. Residents are encouraged to call 214-521-4161 to arrange a free inspection of their property. Additional information may be found on the Town website: <http://www.hptx.org/index.aspx?NID=303>.

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