

Mosquito-Borne Disease Prevention August 8, 2022

Update on Mosquito Activity

On August 4th the Town reported on West Nile Virus (WNV) positive mosquito test pools that occurred between July 18th and August 1st. In that update town staff stated that Municipal Mosquito, the Town's mosquito management and testing service provider, would possibly be recommending limited street level adult mosquito spraying if one of the two trap locations that have tested positive recently tested positive on August 8th. The August 8th mosquito test pool results were received by town staff and all mosquito test pools produced negative results. Municipal Mosquito will continue to conduct weekly site inspections, mosquito trap testing and larvaciding where appropriate. At this point in time Municipal Mosquito is not recommending any street level adult mosquito spraying. Should future mosquito test pool results cause Municipal Mosquito to recommend treatment strategies such as adult mosquito spraying, the Fairview Town Council has stated that they would need to meet and discuss how to proceed. If the Town Council were to ever approve a recommendation to spray for adult mosquitoes, notification to residents would be provided prior to proceeding.

Tips on Mosquito Control and Bite Prevention

There are three months remaining in what is considered "mosquito season". We all need to remain vigilant in taking appropriate steps to protect ourselves and our families from the health risks of diseases spread by mosquitoes. Fairview residents should take precautions at home or when traveling to areas known to have mosquito-borne illnesses. Preventing mosquito breeding and bites is the best way to protect you and your family. The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) recommends that property owners take the following steps to prevent mosquitoes from breeding:

- At least weekly, empty or remove trash cans, buckets, old tires, pots, plant saucers, and other containers that hold water.
- Keep gutters clear of debris and standing water.
- Remove standing water around structures and from flat roofs.
- Change water in pet dishes daily.
- Rinse and scrub vases and other indoor water containers weekly.
- Change water in wading pools and bird baths several times a week.
- Use mosquito dunks with larvicide for water that can't be emptied or covered.
- Keep backyard pools and hot tubs properly chlorinated and free of debris.

- Cover trash containers.
- Water lawns and gardens carefully so water does not stand for several days.
- Screen rain barrels and openings to water tanks or cisterns.
- Treat front and back door areas of homes with residual insecticides if mosquitoes are abundant nearby.
- If mosquito problems persist, consider pesticide applications for vegetation around the home.

To prevent you or your family from being bitten by infected mosquitoes, the DSHS recommends taking the following steps:

- Wear <u>Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents</u>. When used as directed, these insect repellents (including those that contain DEET) are proven safe and effective, even for pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- Cover up with long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Keep mosquitoes out by keeping doors and windows closed and/or installing window screens.

For more information on mosquito-borne disease prevention please access the webpage links for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and DSHS provided below.

<u>CDC Mosquito Information: https://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes/index.html</u> DSHS Mosquito Information: https://dshs.texas.gov/texasmosquitoes/

Are you signed up to receive important Town of Fairview alerts through Nixle? To learn more about Nixle and how to sign up, <u>click here</u>.