



Town of Highland Park

News Release – For Immediate Release

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Highland Park to Conduct Mosquito Ground Spraying

April 19, 2017 (Highland Park, Texas) – The Town of Highland Park Parks Department and Dallas County Health and Human Services monitors several mosquito traps within the town limits. Mosquito samples from each trap are tested on a weekly basis for: 1) total number of adult mosquitoes in each trap; and 2) the presence of West Nile Virus (WNV). The total number of mosquitoes collected in traps on the west and east sides of town were found to be above the treatable threshold as established by the Town’s Mosquito Control Policy, therefore the Parks Department will conduct ground spraying measures town wide over a two night period. All mosquito samples tested negative for West Nile Virus.

- April 19th: Weather permitting, ground spraying will begin at 10:00 p.m. and conclude by 5:00 a.m. on the **west** side of town only (Preston Road west to the Town limits)
- April 20th: Weather permitting, ground spraying will begin at 10:00 p.m. and conclude by 5:00 a.m. on the **east** side of town only (Preston Road east to the Town limits)

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. Ground spraying measures will include the public rights-of-way and the Town’s tennis courts. 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.

The recent rainfall emphasizes the importance for individuals to survey their yard for any areas with standing water. Drain collected water from areas such as flower pot basins, and replace the water in bird baths. Shrubbery and landscaping near the foundation is also a popular area for mosquitoes during the daytime hours due to the cool, moist environment. Mosquitoes are known to be most active in the dawn and dusk periods of the day. Dress in long sleeves and pants to prevent mosquito bites. The use of insect repellent is recommended, and follow the manufacturer’s recommendations. Commercial products for yard applications are available at local home improvement stores. Mosquito dunks are available at no cost at Town Hall.

Town personnel are available for free home/property inspections to identify potential breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Residents may call 214-521-4161 to arrange a free inspection of their property. Link for information – www.hptx.org/MosquitoControl