



# CITY OF DALLAS

— PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE —

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## City of Dallas

### 2016 Ground Spraying Protocol for West Nile Virus and Zika Virus

In the City of Dallas ground spraying activities for mosquitos control will be based on a positive West Nile Virus (WNV) mosquito trap result from a public health laboratory or a consistently high mosquito trap count as outlined under the City of Dallas 2016 Mosquito Control Plan. Additionally, localized spraying may occur if a confirmed human case of the Zika Virus is detected in the City of Dallas. The spray radius for the Zika Virus will be based on surveillance.

- Only EPA approved products for ground spraying will be used.
- Products will only be dispensed from an ultra-low volume (ULV) truck mounted sprayer or a back pack sprayer (if conducting localized spraying).
- Spray activities for WNV will take place between 9:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.
- Spray activities for Zika Virus may occur during the day.
- WNV spray activities will begin within 5-7 hours after the City is notified by the lab of a positive mosquito trap. All locations will be double sprayed on consecutive days.

Citizens are encouraged to follow the City on Twitter and Nextdoor as alerts will be sent out that identify affected areas. Citizens may contact 311 to report standing water or 214-670-1733 to get additional information on the City's mosquito abatement activities.

People have an important role to play in protecting themselves and their loved ones from illnesses caused by mosquitoes. The best way to avoid exposure to mosquito borne viruses such as Zika and West Nile Virus is to avoid mosquito bites by employing the 4 **Ds**':

- **D**rain or treat standing water in and around your home or neighborhood.
- **D**usk and dawn, stay indoors during this time to avoid mosquitoes when they are most active. The mosquito that carries the Zika Virus is active during daytime hours, so be sure to protect yourself at all times.
- **D**ress in long, loose and light-colored clothing outside.
- **D**eet. All day. Every day. Whenever you're outside, use insect repellent that contains DEET or other EPA approved repellents and follow instructions.

### **Prevent mosquito breeding**

Most mosquitoes are homegrown and all need water to reproduce. Mosquitoes can grow from egg to adult in as little as seven days. Breeding places for mosquitoes include swimming pools that are not kept clean, stagnant ponds, pet watering dishes, birdbaths, potted plants, old tires, empty containers, toys and clogged rain gutters and French drains. Standing water should be eliminated promptly.

To report standing water or mosquito problems Dallas residents should call 3-1-1. For additional information on mosquito control visit [dallascitynews.net/fightthebite](http://dallascitynews.net/fightthebite).