

Memorandum



DATE May 9, 2025

CITY OF DALLAS

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **2025 Mosquito Abatement Plan**

The active season for the 2025 Mosquito Abatement Plan begins on May 1 and continues through October 31. This briefing memorandum serves to update you on the plans for the 2025 season.

- The City of Dallas maintains an integrated mosquito management program, as recommended by Dallas County Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that focuses on surveillance, reduction of breeding sites, community outreach, and public education to control mosquito populations. The City of Dallas will continue monitoring and testing 90 trap site locations citywide for West Nile Virus (WNV) in Culex species mosquitoes.
- Community outreach and education are a cornerstone of our abatement efforts, as public involvement is vital to controlling mosquito populations. While larvicide treatments and adult mosquito spraying are important, they are not 100% effective. Residents are strongly encouraged to:
 - **DEET - All Day, Every Day:** Whenever outside, use EPA-approved insect repellents that contain DEET, picaridin or lemon-eucalyptus oil.
 - **DRESS:** Wear long, loose fitting, light-colored clothing when going outdoors.
 - **DRAIN:** All areas of standing water in or around your home where mosquitoes can lay their eggs.
 - **DUSK TO DAWN:** Limit your time outside during dusk to dawn when mosquitoes are most active.

A step-by-step instructional video on how to eliminate breeding sites is available at:
<http://www.dallascitynews.net/fightthebite>.

Our outreach campaign will include radio advertisements, social media messaging, and community meetings to reinforce these preventive measures.

General Spray Protocol

Ground spraying for mosquito control may be activated by the following conditions:

- 1) A mosquito trap tests positive for West Nile Virus, activates a spray operation within a ½-mile radius of the trap location.
- 2) A high number of mosquitoes in a single trap can trigger spraying within a ¼-mile radius of the trap location.

The City of Dallas uses only EPA-approved, water-based products for ground spraying, which is conducted using truck-mounted sprayers. Upon confirmation of a WNV positive result, spraying can be initiated within 24 hours. The City will release a press statement by 4:00 p.m., notifying the public of spray locations that will be sprayed no earlier than 9:00 p.m.

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Additional operational details include:

- Each location is sprayed for two consecutive nights to increase effectiveness.
- Spraying operations are carefully managed to avoid water bodies and public spaces where people are present.
- All chemicals are applied in full accordance with the manufacturer's product label.
- Positive trap sites will be re-tested within five business days.
- Foot surveillance and source reduction efforts (e.g., applying larvicide to standing water) will be conducted to reduce mosquito populations.
- In observance of the Monarch Butterfly Migration, and barring a significant public health event, the City of Dallas will cease all ground spraying after October 10, 2025.

Citizen Notification List

The City of Dallas maintains two notification lists via the 3-1-1 system. The Do Not Spray List allows residents to opt out of mosquito spraying on or around their property via 3-1-1 or online. The Beekeeper Notification List provides beekeepers with an email alert detailing planned spray locations. Residents can enroll in either list by contacting 3-1-1 by phone or online.

Historical Data on West Nile Virus Human Cases

For historical perspective, the following table depicts the number of WNV human cases in the City of Dallas over the last nine years. There were three West Nile Virus–associated deaths reported in Dallas County during the 2024 season. One fatality was attributable to the City of Dallas.

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Human Cases	27	16	4	1	17	17	2	18	22

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Chris Christian, Director of Code Compliance Services at chris.christian@dallas.gov.

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