



INFORMATION - COMMUNIQUÉ

For Immediate Release
Thursday, May 5, 2022

City of Winnipeg begins mosquito larviciding program

Winnipeg, MB – The City of Winnipeg has commenced this year’s insect control season focusing on a targeted, environmentally friendly mosquito larviciding program which is the most effective approach to control mosquitoes. Larviciding targets mosquito larvae in the aquatic stage before they emerge as adult mosquitoes.

“Above normal winter precipitation has resulted in standing water in ditches and low-lying areas in fields and forests. As the spring mosquitoes have begun to hatch in the standing water, an extensive larviciding program is anticipated.” said David Wade, Superintendent of Insect Control.

This season’s mosquito control program will continue to be based on an environmentally mindful strategy. Employees working in the Insect Control Branch will carry-out the key components of the mosquito control program including:

- A 100% biorational larviciding program using ground equipment and four helicopters
- Monitoring and treating over 28,000 hectares of water area on an ongoing basis based on weather conditions
- Monitoring for adult nuisance mosquitoes in New Jersey Light Traps beginning May 6, 2022 with the first trap counts posted on May 9, 2022 on the [Insect Control website](#)
- Adult mosquito treatments will only be initiated when the requirements of the City policy, the AFA Guidelines, and the Provincial Pesticide Use Permit are met. If nuisance mosquito treatment is required, the program will be carried out using DeltaGard 20EW®. Areas with highest nuisance mosquito populations will be prioritized and 90 meter buffer zones will be respected. A 24-hour public notice will be issued prior to the start of a nuisance treatment program. Daily public notices will also be issued detailing where treatment will occur that night.

Larviciding with helicopters

In accordance with Transport Canada's Civil Aviation Division, the City's contractor operates under a low flight waiver which allows the helicopters to apply larvicides at low altitudes. When larviciding is occurring in places where people congregate (e.g. athletic fields, larger parks, golf courses, etc.), public access will be restricted to these areas 20 minutes before and during treatment. The Insect Control Branch will try to minimize disruption to the public in the areas impacted by posting signage which indicates the date and time of the planned treatment approximately 24 hours in advance of treatment, treating as early as possible in the morning, and using longer lasting larvicides to limit the number of applications required over the season.

Buffer zones

Property owners not wanting DeltaGard 20EW® applied on or adjacent to their principal residence may register as "Anti-Pesticide Registrants" for the adult nuisance mosquito treatment program. Those who want to register must provide identification that ties the registrant to the address being registered for a buffer zone. A photocopy or scanned document such as a driver's licence or utility bill will suffice as acceptable identification proving primary residence. Please remember that a 72-hour turnaround time is required.

The in-person option of registering is temporarily suspended due to COVID-19. Buffer zone applications will still be received by:

- [311 online service request](#)
- Email 311@winnipeg.ca
- Fax 311
- In writing to the Insect Control Branch at 3 Grey Street., Winnipeg MB R2L 1V2

Do your part

Property owners are also encouraged to eliminate standing water on their properties by taking one of the following steps:

- Dump It! - containers
- Drain It! - eavestroughing or unused containers
- Cover It! - rain water collection containers
- Fill It! - low-lying areas
- Treat It! - biological larvicide

Register for notification

The Insect Control Branch offers an automated telephone and email notification system. Residents who register for this service will receive daily phone or email notifications for all adult mosquito control activities. Residents can register for [notification online](#) or by [contacting 311](#).

More information

For more information, contact 311 or visit the City's [Insect Control website](#).

-30-

Media inquiries should be directed to the City of Winnipeg Media Inquiry Line at 204-986-6000 or via email at city-mediainquiry@winnipeg.ca.

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