

Denton County Health Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Denton County Releases Aerial Spraying Results

September 19, 2012 – The Denton County Health Department received aerial spraying results September 18. The spraying resulted in a reduction of 56% of all mosquito types, and 60% of the *Culex tarsalis* and *Culex quinquefasciatus* mosquito species (carriers of West Nile virus). Several of the communities with the highest incidence rates in Denton County experienced the most dramatic reductions in mosquitoes as a result of aerial spraying. Spraying was conducted by state contractor Clarke in portions of Denton County from August 31 to September 2. The full report can be found at the Denton County West Nile virus website, listed below.

The number of new cases of West Nile virus has decreased substantially since aerial spraying; however, it is premature to conclude that these results are solely attributable to aerial spraying. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will release a comprehensive regional report on this year's West Nile virus season in the fall.

It is important to remember that aerial spraying is one piece of a WNV control program. Ground spraying, larviciding, education, and personal protection are also vital aspects to prevention of this illness, and must continue throughout the remainder of West Nile virus season. Please visit the DCHD West Nile virus website (www.dentoncounty.com/heart/wnv), or call the West Nile virus hotline (940-349-2907) for more details about symptoms, prevention tips, county-wide contacts, reducing mosquitoes around your home, and disease statistics.