

Denton County Health Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Denton County to Begin Aerial Spraying

August 29, 2012 –Denton County will begin aerial spraying against the West Nile Virus, weather permitting, on Thursday, August 30, 2012 and Friday August 31, 2012. Spraying will begin at 9:00 pm and will continue until 2:00 am.

Cities Opting In For Aerial Spraying

Aubrey, Town of Copper Canyon, Corral City, Town of Crossroads, Town of Dish, Town of Double Oak, Town of Flower Mound, Hackberry, Haslet, Hickory Creek, Highland Village, Justin, Krugerville, Krum, Lake Dallas, Lakewood Village, Lewisville, Lincoln Park, Town of Northlake, Oak Point, Pilot Point, Ponder, Prosper (Denton County only), Providence Village, Roanoke, Sanger, Sandy Shores, Southlake, Town of Trophy Club, Town of Westlake

Cities Opting Out for Aerial Spraying

Argyle, Bartonville, Corinth, Denton, Fort Worth, Frisco, Hebron, Little Elm, Plano, The Colony

Cities Previously Sprayed

Carrollton, Coppell, Dallas

In response to citizens who may see aircraft spraying their non-targeted areas; the aircraft are NOT actually spraying that area. The technology onboard this aircraft is very sophisticated and the target areas are sprayed with great precision. Maps of the target areas can be found at the Denton County Health Department West Nile Virus website later this afternoon.

All incorporated “opt in” cities will be included in the aerial spraying program. Additionally, unincorporated areas with population centers adjacent to “opt in” cities will also receive aerial spraying. Lastly, other unincorporated areas will be aeri ally sprayed based on multiple factors including population, current West Nile Virus (WNV) cases, and WNV positive mosquito pools.

Aerial spraying is considered to be an effective and safe way to kill adult mosquitoes in large, densely populated areas. The pesticide is approved by the Environmental Protection Agency and is safe for humans and animals in the dosage being utilized. Individuals who wish to exercise an **abundance of caution** may take the following measures to minimize exposure:

- Avoid being outside during spraying; close windows and keep pets inside.
- If skin or clothes are exposed, wash them with soap and water.
- Rinse homegrown fruits and vegetables with water as a general precautionary measure.
- Cover small ornamental fish ponds.
- Because the chemical breaks down quickly in sunlight and water, no special precautions are suggested for outdoor swimming areas.

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.