

BAY COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL

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Animal Control
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TOM HICKNER

County Executive

Press Release

Mosquito Control Spraying To Begin on Wednesday, May 13

For Immediate Release: May 13, 2009

Contact: Bay County Mosquito Control, Thomas J. Putt or Mary J. McCarry,
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Bay County Mosquito Control (BCMC) will begin nighttime fogging of adult mosquitoes on May 13, 2009, weather permitting. This service, known as Ultra Low Volume (ULV) fogging, is undertaken in the evening after sunset when most mosquitoes are active and will continue throughout the summer. Mosquito spraying aims to control mosquitoes that fly through the fog and does not leave residue for long-term control.

When weather conditions are conducive, BCMC sprays county-wide for mosquitoes on a rotating basis Monday through Friday. Mosquito spray trucks operate from sunset until 1:00 a.m. Spraying is halted during rain and when winds exceed 10 mph. "April 9th was the first day that we began treating seasonally flooded woodlots to control larvae. Some of these spring mosquitoes and now summer mosquito species have begun to emerge as biting adults," said Director, Tom Putt. Adult mosquito emergence prompts the nighttime fogging operations.

As part of our public health control measures to provide for the safety and protection of our residents, BCMC will continue to control both immature stages of mosquitoes in standing water and flying, bothersome

adults through late September or early October.

Individuals can participate in West Nile virus prevention efforts by eliminating sources of stagnant water on their property. Other homeowner control includes the following: getting rid of old tires, tin cans, pails, or any other water-holding containers, or storing them upside down; keeping ditches, drains, and culverts clear of weeds and trash for proper drainage; draining water from tarps or plastic sheeting which covers wood piles, boats, etc.; emptying plastic wading pools at least once a week and storing them inside when not in use; changing bird bath water weekly; keeping grass cut short and shrubbery well trimmed so adult mosquitoes will not rest there during the day; and using fine mesh screen on the top of rain barrels to prevent female adults from reaching the water surface to lay eggs. People can also protect themselves from mosquitoes by applying insect repellent before going outside at dawn, dusk and during the evening.

If you prefer your property not be treated for adult mosquitoes, please call our office (989) 894-4555 so we can make arrangements. Thomas Putt is the Director of Bay County Mosquito Control and can be reached at (989) 894-4555 for more information about mosquito control.###