

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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DESPLAINES VALLEY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT
PRESS RELEASE - August 9, 2023

Several areas within the District are currently experiencing increased levels of West Nile Virus (WNV) within the adult mosquito population to the level where transmission to humans is likely. The species of mosquito involved in WNV transmission is a passive mosquito, and not an aggressive biter with its presence often undetected. Recent warm temperatures have created ideal conditions for the production of this mosquito species along with rapid amplification of WNV.

Spraying for adult mosquitoes will be conducted during evening hours between dusk and midnight as needed in the specific areas. The District lists all areas to be sprayed on a particular evening on its website at desplainesvalleymad.com, on a recorded message available after 3:30pm at 708-447-1765, on its Facebook page, and in addition notifies Villages for inclusion on their websites.

Residents are encouraged to use a common-sense approach in avoiding exposure to adult mosquitoes and any potential mosquito-borne diseases. Window screens should be inspected and repaired if damaged to prevent mosquitoes from entering the home. In addition, any openings around window air conditioners, clothes dryer vents, etc. should be eliminated for the same reason. If possible, avoid outdoor activities around dusk. If not possible, wear shoes, socks, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Loose-fitting, light-colored clothing is best. Appropriate use of insect repellents per manufacturer's instructions is recommended.

Residents should look for potential mosquito breeding sources around the home and take the following simple steps:

- 1) Throw away all trash that can hold water as cans, jars, bottles, etc.
- 2) Clean rain gutters/downspouts to prevent water from standing in gutters or on flat roofs.
- 3) Change water in bird baths, wading pools, etc. at least once a week.
- 4) Maintain swimming pools properly.
- 5) Remove or turn over containers, buckets, wheel barrows, etc. which may accumulate water.
- 6) Screen rain barrels to prevent adult mosquitoes from depositing eggs on the water's surface.
- 7) Aerate ornamental ponds and stock with goldfish or other surface-feeding fish to control mosquito production.
- 8) Dispose of any used tires without rims to prevent water accumulation.

For additional information, please visit the District's website at www.dvmad.org