

# City of Dallas News Release

Public Information Office

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Friday, August 29, 2008

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## **City records first human case of West Nile Encephalitis** *Residents are urged to take protective measures*

**Dallas** – A resident of east Dallas has become the season's first victim of mosquito carried West Nile Virus. As a result, mosquito control spraying is scheduled for an area north of R.L. Thornton Freeway between Carroll Avenue, Beacon Street and south of Swiss Avenue. Weather permitting the mosquito control spraying is scheduled to begin at 10 p.m. on Tuesday night September 2 and conclude at 3 a.m. on Wednesday morning September 3.

**Control Area:** The area to be sprayed is bounded by Carroll Avenue, R.L. Thornton Freeway, Garland Avenue, Graham Avenue/Beacon St., Abrams Road., Fulton Street, Junius Street, Beacon Street., Swiss Avenue, Fitzhugh Avenue, Gaston Avenue back to Carroll Avenue.

While the insecticide is considered safe, residents in the above areas should avoid contact with the spray by staying indoors. Persons inside a vehicle while trucks are actively spraying should remain in their vehicles with the windows up and the air conditioner on until the trucks pass and the spray is no longer visible. Persons out when spraying is to take place should be alert for trucks and should not follow them. Residents who come in contact with the spray are advised to wash the affected area thoroughly with soap and water. The spray breaks down quickly in the presence of sunlight and has no residual effect. Fish ponds should be protected and pets should be brought inside during the spraying period.

### **Protection against mosquito bites**

Dallas residents are urged to take precautions against mosquito bites by reducing outdoor activity during evening and early morning hours. Residents who are outside during these times should cover their arms and legs and use a mosquito repellent.

### **Prevent mosquito breeding**

Residents should eliminate standing water to prevent mosquito breeding and the spread of West Nile Virus. Breeding places for mosquitoes include swimming pools that are not kept clean, stagnant ponds, pet watering dishes, birdbaths, potted plants, old tires, empty containers, French drains and clogged rain gutters. Standing water should be eliminated promptly, as mosquitoes can grow from egg to adult in as little as seven days.

### **City's mosquito spray program**

The pesticide and spray methods are adapted for the purpose of reducing the adult mosquito population. Only those areas where infected mosquitoes have been found are scheduled for spraying. The active ingredients in the pesticides used are permethrin and piperonyl butoxide. A 300-foot swath is the effective range and only insects present and which come into contact with the pesticide may be killed. Insects which are not active at night like bees and dragon flies should not be affected.

To report standing water or mosquito problems Dallas residents should call 3-1-1. For additional information on mosquito control visit [http://www.dallascityhall.com/ehs/mosquito\\_control.html](http://www.dallascityhall.com/ehs/mosquito_control.html)

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