

Here is some general information about mosquitoes and St Louis County's treatment program:

#### Mosquitoes

Daytime-biting mosquito species do not currently transmit diseases to people in the Midwest (yes they do transmit dog heartworm). Culex species come out at night (beginning around sunset) and transmit West Nile Virus and other types of encephalitis to people. These are the mosquitoes we are targeting with our spraying program.

#### Larviciding Treatment

We inspect & treat known sites with standing water (larviciding) about once per month with products that last for approximately 45 days.

#### Adulticiding Treatment

We spray for adult mosquitoes (adulticiding) 5 nights per week beginning at sunset. Residents may call 615-4284 to learn where we are spraying on a given night. Some portion of South Central St Louis County is sprayed on Thursdays. Specifically where we spray depends largely on what counts we get in our mosquito traps. No area is sprayed every week.

It is not necessary to call us in order for us to come out and spray, we will spray where we believe the mosquito problem is worst. If people do wish to call and request spraying they may do so by calling 314-615-0680, but please remember that we must give highest priority to:

- \* where we trap the largest numbers of mosquitoes, and
- \* where the mosquitoes are testing positive for West Nile and other diseases.

#### What Can The Resident Do?

The first place to start is to eliminate any standing water from your property. Check those flower pots, corrugated drainage pipes, etc.

If people wish to supplement our efforts with their own treatment, they may purchase a barrier spray from the hardware store (relatively inexpensive, look for a liquid that hooks up to a garden hose). There are also private companies that will come and spray a resident's yard for a fee.

We encourage people to avoid outdoor activities around sunrise and sunset if possible, or to use insect repellent if you will be outside when the mosquitoes are biting.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer. Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Tom Noftsinger  
St Louis County Vector Control

314-615-0668