



INFORMATION - COMMUNIQUÉ

For Immediate Release
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City begins 2011 Insect Control season

Winnipeg, MB. – Today, the City of Winnipeg announced the start of its surveillance and larviciding activities for the 2011 nuisance mosquito control season.

2011 Mosquito Control Program

As a result of several positive changes, the 2011 mosquito control program will be more environmentally friendly and responsive than in previous years. This season's mosquito control program will continue to be based on the environmentally conscious Insect Control Strategy adopted by Council in 2005. The following is a list of the changes and the continued policy:

- One million dollar operating budget increase has allowed for the City of Winnipeg to decrease the use of chemical and increases the use of biological products for larviciding.
 - Sixty per cent of all larviciding will now be with biologicals as compared with 35 per cent last season. Larviciding targets mosquito larvae in the aquatic stage before they emerge as adults and is the most effective and environmentally-friendly approach to controlling mosquitoes before they become free flying adults. Surveillance of standing water sites in and around Winnipeg began in April. At this time, low larval populations are being reported. Ground and aerial-based larviciding activities are occurring daily, weather permitting.
- The initial notification period before Malathion 95ULV® can be used for adult nuisance mosquito fogging has changed from 48 hours to 24 hours.
 - Halving the initial notification lead time will allow the City of Winnipeg to be more responsive when the adult nuisance mosquito population warrants.
- The change to the Pesticide Use Permit regarding reducing the three consecutive day average trap count of above 25 coinciding with one or more city quadrants average of over 100, is reduced to only two days before Malathion 95ULV® can be used for adult nuisance mosquito fogging has also been approved by the Province.
 - This allows for fogging for adult mosquitoes to be implemented one day sooner if conditions and the AFA guidelines warrant.
- The buffer zone registration policy has been reviewed.
 - Residents can still apply for a 100 metre buffer zone in order to exempt their property during a Residential Adult Nuisance Mosquito Fogging Program.
 - Property owners not wanting insecticides applied on or adjacent to their principle residence may register as "Anti-Pesticide Registrants" for both cankerworm and/or adult nuisance mosquito control programs. Those who wish to register

must provide identification that ties the registrant to the address being registered for a buffer zone. A photocopy or scanned document like a driver's licence, Manitoba Hydro, MTS or other utility bill will suffice as acceptable identification proving primary residence. There are four different options to register. In writing to Insect Control Branch at 3 Grey Street, R2L 1V2, by faxing or e-mailing 311, or in person at 1539 Waverley Street. As a minimum 72-hour turnaround time is required for processing, residents are reminded to begin registering now for the 2011 season, in the event that cankerworm control or mosquito fogging is required.

- The buffer zone size is under review – currently still 100 meters
 - The City of Winnipeg has applied to the Province for a special pesticide use permit buffer zone amendment, as directed by Council in July, 2010.
 - As part of our application, we are proposing field tests to determine how far Malathion 95ULV® droplets “drift” in truck-based, nuisance mosquito fogging operations.
 - The objective of the tests will be to determine, scientifically, if buffer zones can be reduced so that buffer zones for individual properties can still be respected without or with less negative impact on neighbouring properties not requesting a buffer zone.
- Lastly, the Insect Control Branch successfully completed the move from the Community Services Department to Public Works Department.

The City of Winnipeg will continue using a balanced control approach including larviciding, biocontrols and residual treatments, and when necessary, fogging, to supplement these on-going measures.

- As in previous years, the Insect Control Branch continues to use four larviciding helicopters on contract.
- The total number of staff working at the Branch will be similar to last year, with approximately 160 staff being employed.
- Currently the Branch monitors and treats over 40,000 hectares of water area on an ongoing basis.
- Our Geographic Information System database contains approximately 7,000 standing water listings, many of which contain multiple sites.
- Monitoring for adult nuisance mosquitoes in the New Jersey Light Traps started April 29 this season and the latest trap count is 0. The trap counts and AFA will be posted daily on the [website](#).

Fogging will be initiated only when the requirements of the City policy, the AFA (Adulticiding Factor Analysis) Guidelines, and the Provincial Pesticide Use Permit are met. If nuisance mosquito fogging is required, the program will be carried out in the entire city, buffer zones respected, prioritizing first for areas with highest nuisance mosquito populations. For details on the AFA factors, please refer to the Insect Control [website](#). A 24 hour public notice will be issued prior to a nuisance fogging program being implemented. Daily public notices will also be issued detailing where fogging will occur that night. Personal notification by telephone or email of the mosquito fogging programs activities is also available by contacting the Insect Control Branch in writing at 3 Grey Street, R2L 1V2, by email at 311@winnipeg.ca, by fax at 311 or by registering [on-line](#).

All Winnipeg neighbourhoods have been grouped into 51 Insect Management Areas so that as residents become familiar with their Insect Management Area, they will find it much easier to

reference when their area is going to be treated. Information on all fogging and cankerworm control activities will be provided by referencing the specific Insect Management Area in which they are being carried out. These maps can be found on our [website](#), as handouts at all City libraries, and in the back of the MTS White Pages. You can also find out the Insect Management area that you live in by calling 311.

Property owners are also encouraged to eliminate standing water on their properties by taking one of the following steps:

Dump It! - containers

Drain It! - eavestroughing or unused containers

Cover It! - rain water collection containers

Fill It! - low-lying areas

Treat It! - biological larvicide

2011 Cankerworm Control

Based on fall tree band monitoring and preliminary spring band monitoring, the ICB expects the amount of damage to be minimal except on some localized streets where major defoliation may occur due to the cankerworm larvae feeding on the foliage of the trees. The counts are continuing to drop from their peak in 2009.

Please remember to remove the bands after the May long weekend and put new sticky bands up in early September to control the fall cankerworm.

Interested individuals may acquire more information by contacting the City at 311 or by visiting the City's Insect Control [website](#).

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Media inquiries may be directed to the City of Winnipeg Media Inquiry Line at (204) 986-6000 or via email at MediaInquiry@winnipeg.ca