



INFORMATION - COMMUNIQUÉ

For Immediate Release
Thursday August 13, 2009

48 HOUR PUBLIC NOTICE ADULT NUISANCE MOSQUITO FOGGING PROGRAM TO COMMENCE

Winnipeg, MB – Today, August 13, 2009, the Insect Control Branch (ICB) is providing a 48 hour public notice that the adult nuisance mosquito fogging program for the City of Winnipeg will begin. This adult nuisance mosquito fogging program is for the entire city, respecting buffer zones, starting in the areas with the highest nuisance mosquito populations.

The program is scheduled to begin Saturday August 15, 2009 at 9:30 p.m., weather permitting. A Public Service Announcement will be issued on Saturday, a minimum of 8 hours prior to the commencement of fogging, to advise which residential areas will be fogged that night, based on current surveillance data.

AFA MOVES TO HIGH

The city-wide Adulticiding Factor Analysis (AFA) rating has now moved from MEDIUM to HIGH, based on an analysis of today's AFA factors, which includes trap counts. A high AFA means that there is currently a significant adult mosquito population and other indications that these conditions are expected to continue.

In order for a nuisance mosquito fogging program to occur, the City of Winnipeg Adult Mosquito Control Policy and the Pesticide Use Permit define three requirements that must be met:

- The Adulticiding Factor Analysis (AFA) which is one city-wide rating must be High.
- And a minimum average city-wide trap count threshold of 25 female mosquitoes for 3 consecutive nights.
- And one of more of the quadrants of the city are in the range of 100 female adult mosquitoes.

At this time, all of these conditions have been met.

In order to reduce adult mosquito populations, the City of Winnipeg has utilized a combination of larviciding and residual treatments. Residual treatments were implemented as soon as the female adult mosquitoes began to emerge in increasing numbers. The aggressive larviciding program is also continuing.

These measures alone are no longer able to control the current adult nuisance mosquito population, and adult mosquitoes are now becoming intolerable. Therefore, an adult nuisance mosquito fogging program is now being implemented.

DAILY PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Until further notice, fogging will be carried out on a daily basis between the hours of 9:30 p.m. and 6:30 a.m. Daily Public Service Announcements (PSA) will be released at least eight hours in advance of fogging. These PSA's will identify the Insect Management Areas the ICB is planning to treat that evening, weather permitting.

It is important to note that fogging will not occur when temperatures are below 13 degrees Celsius and/or wind speeds are not conducive to fogging.

All Winnipeg neighbourhoods have been grouped into 51 Insect Management Areas. Information on all fogging activities will be provided by referencing the specific Insect Management Area in which treatment is to be carried out. Citizens can find out which Insect Management Area they reside in by calling 311 or by going to the Insect Control's website at Winnipeg.ca/bugline. At this website residents can click on "Find your insect management area" and type in their address to find out in which Insect Management Area they reside. Copies of this map and buffer zone registration forms are also available at your local library.

To find out where City crews will be fogging, citizens are encouraged to visit the website at Winnipeg.ca/bugline or call 311. In addition, the Insect Control Branch offers an automated telephone and e-mail notification system. Residents who register for this service will receive daily phone or e-mail notification during any fogging for adult mosquito control. To register for the automated email or telephone notification systems, citizens can go to Winnipeg.ca/cms/bugline/notification or call 311.

The insecticide Malathion 95ULV® will be used. This insecticide has been approved for use in Canada by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency. Malathion 95ULV® will be used in accordance with federally approved label directions by licensed pesticide applicators.

BUFFER ZONES

All buffer zones will be respected. Crews will ensure that the sprayer is not treating within 100 meters on each side of a registered property on the front street, side street, and rear lane. Residents are reminded that if they wish to have their primary residence excluded from the adult nuisance mosquito fogging program, they can register in writing by completing the online form on the website at Winnipeg.ca/cms/bugline/notification/buffer_zone or by faxing 311 or by contacting the Insect Control Branch at 3 Grey Street, Winnipeg, MB, R2L 1V2. Up to 72 hours may be required for processing.

Interested individuals may acquire more information by contacting 311, or by visiting the City's Insect Control website at Winnipeg.ca/bugline.

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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.