



News Release



Shelby County Health Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Mosquito Spray Schedule for Week of June 16

MEMPHIS, TN – The Shelby County Health Department continues to test mosquitoes for the presence of West Nile virus. There were no new positive test pools confirmed. To date, positive tests pools have been confirmed in the **38107** ZIP code.

To aid in the reduction of mosquitoes potentially carrying and transmitting West Nile virus, the Health Department will conduct truck-mounted spraying (adulticiding) of EPA-approved insecticides in portions of specific ZIP codes each week, **weather permitting**. The spray schedule is updated weekly to reflect the most recent positive test pool discoveries, and is designed to reduce the threat of West Nile virus transmission. The most up-to-date spray schedule is as follows:

Monday, June 16th

8:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.

ZIP Codes: 38104, 38105, 38107, 38108, 38112, 38122

Tuesday, June 17th

8:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.

ZIP Codes: 38109

Wednesday, June 18th

8:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.

ZIP Codes: 38104, 38106, 38109, 38114, 38126

Thursday, June 19th

8:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.

ZIP Codes: 38116

Truck mounted spraying only effectively kills adult mosquitoes that are currently flying at the time the insecticide is released. Because of this, residents are highly encouraged to be vigilant as it relates to controlling mosquito populations around their homes and businesses. Citizens are encouraged to:

- Wear DEET-containing mosquito repellants according to label directions (especially during evening hours)
- Eliminate standing water where mosquitoes can lay eggs. Check properties for objects - including old tires, flower pots and drip plates, tin cans, buckets, and children's toys - that collect rainwater and either drain or dispose of the water
- Install or repair windows and door screens
- Empty, clean and refill birdbaths and small wading pools weekly
- Empty and refill pets' water bowls every few days
- Repair failed septic systems
- Repair leaky outside faucets
- Clean rain gutters and down spouts
- Secure swimming pool covers tightly and remove any standing water after rainfall
- Store wheelbarrows, canoes and boats upside down
- Stock ornamental lawn ponds with fish (Gambusia) that eat mosquito larvae (Gambusia fish are available FREE from the Vector Control Program – **PLEASE CALL FOR AVAILABILITY**)

Individuals with chronic health problems such as asthma or other lung conditions may want to remain indoors during the time of spraying. Citizens who **do not** want their residences to be sprayed should contact the Health Department's Vector Control Program at **(901) 222-9715**.

Humans can catch the West Nile virus through being bitten by an infected mosquito. Although West Nile virus can occasionally cause severe disease, most human infections are mild, resulting in fever, headache and body aches that last only a few days. Symptoms of severe disease include a high fever, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma or convulsions. Persons over age 50 and those with compromised immune systems are at higher risk of severe disease. They should especially be careful to avoid mosquito bites.

Note: To ensure the insecticide is most effective, the scheduled spraying will be canceled if any of the following weather conditions are present for the majority of the schedule spray time:

- Greater than a 65% chance of rain
- Wind speeds 11mph or greater
- Temperature less than 60 degrees Fahrenheit

Follow @SCHDRresponse for the most up-to-date cancelations of any scheduled sprayings.