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Second Mosquito Trap Sample Tests Positive for West Nile Virus in Taylor
Truck Mounted Spraying Scheduled for Aug. 7, 8, 9

Trapped mosquitoes collected from a sampling location in Taylor have tested positive for a second time in for West Nile Virus. This testing is part of the City of Taylor’s proactive participation in the Williamson County and Cities Health District’s (WCCHD) mosquito management program. The second sample was taken on Jul. 27. The positive test was indicated in a lab result from the Texas Department of State Health Services lab in Austin and reported to the City by WCCHD on Aug. 1, 2018.

The trap that tested positive was located near Robinson Park off S. Dolan St. The species that tested positive is Culex quinquefasciatus (southern house mosquito) and has a flight range of about one mile. Additional traps set outside the 1-mile radius of Robinson Park did not test positive for West Nile Virus.

The City is following the Health District’s Best Practices for Integrated Mosquito Management which, at this time, calls for truck mounted spraying, along with enhanced monitoring and testing and increased public outreach and education. Enhanced mosquito control efforts will also continue with the treatment of standing water with larvicide.

A pesticide contractor is scheduled to spray in the vicinity. Truck-mounted-spraying is planned for three consecutive nights beginning Tue. Aug. 7 at 9 pm in the impacted area including Robinson Park. A map is included showing the area where application of the pesticide is planned. Although the mosquito control product poses no significant health risk, if possible, people and pets may want to stay indoors during spraying.

The City and WCCHD are encouraging everyone to be especially vigilant about protecting themselves from mosquito bites when outdoors and preventing mosquito breeding on their property. Recent rain and continued fluctuating temperatures are prime breeding conditions for mosquitoes.

What you can do
Mosquitoes breed in standing or stagnant water. Eliminating places where mosquitoes can breed and reducing the chances of mosquito bites are the most effective lines of defense against exposure to West Nile Virus. As part of its Fight the Bite campaign the Health District recommends the 3Ds of mosquito safety.
- **Drain** standing water in flower pots, pet dishes or clogged gutters so mosquitoes don’t have a place to breed and treat water that can’t be drained,
- **Defend** by using an EPA-approved insect repellent, and
- **Dress** in long sleeves and pants when outdoors.

West Nile Virus should not be confused with other mosquito-borne viruses. For more information on mosquito prevention methods or about West Nile Virus visit [www.wcchd.org](http://www.wcchd.org) or [www.txwestnile.org](http://www.txwestnile.org).