

Mosquito Control

The City of Azle does not utilize a regular ground or aerial spraying program to control the local mosquito population. However, City Staff, in partnership with the Tarrant County Health Department, does monitor the mosquito population in the City for West Nile Virus. Depending on current conditions and information available, spraying may be considered as an option to control the mosquito population in the City of Azle.

What Can You Do?

The City of Azle is asking for your assistance and cooperation to help reduce mosquito populations in neighborhoods. To implement a complete mosquito control program, it is not only important to eliminate breeding sources on your property but also to treat fish ponds, drainage ditches, bird baths, storm drains, pet water dishes, as well as other mosquito breeding grounds.

Property owners can purchase mosquito control products at local hardware and feed stores. These products will contain an insect growth regulator (IGR), that stops mosquitoes from becoming breeding, biting adults. Please follow directions for effective results.

If you have difficulties or need additional information please contact us. We will be glad to help. Thank you.

For additional Information you can go online: (<http://health.tarrantcounty.com>); call the Epidemiology and Health Information office at 817-321-5350; or contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at 1-888-246-2675. (www.cdc.gov).

or contact:

Kyle Culwell
613 S.E. Parkway
Azle, Tx 76020

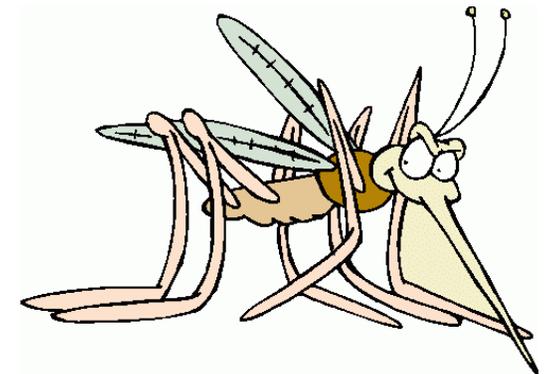
**Reminder:
Mosquito Control is Everyone's
Responsibility!**



Kyle Culwell, Parks Superintendent
City of Azle
613 SE Parkway
Azle, TX 76020
Phone: 817.444.7127
Fax: 817.444.6994
E-mail: kculwell@ci.azle.tx.us



West Nile Virus and Mosquito Control



Facts About West Nile Virus

West Nile virus (WNV) is a flavivirus commonly found in Africa, West Asia and the Middle East. The virus can infect humans, birds, mosquitoes and other mammals. WNV was introduced in America in 1999.

Most people infected with WNV will not show any symptoms at all or may experience mild fever, headache and body aches before fully recovering. If illness were to occur, symptoms typically develop within 3 - 14 days of being bitten by an infected mosquito. It is estimated that 20 percent of people who become infected develop West Nile fever: mild symptoms include fever, headache and body aches, occasionally with a skin rash on the trunk of the body and swollen lymph glands. In a very few individuals, particularly the elderly, WNV can affect brain tissue, cause encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) or meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain and spinal chord).

Most often, the virus is transmitted to people when an infected mosquito bites a human. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds. WNV is not spread by person-to-person contact or by caring for someone who is infected. In a few individuals, it may have been spread through blood transfusions, but screening tests are being put in place.

There is no vaccine for WNV nor is there a specific therapy.

In severe cases, hospitalization, intravenous (IV) fluids and nutrition, airway management, ventilatory support (ventilator) if needed, prevention of secondary infections (pneumonia, urinary tract, etc.), and good nursing care are required. At its most serious, it can cause death; however, death from the disease is rare.

The chances you will become ill from any mosquito bite are very remote. In areas where the virus has been detected, very few mosquitoes in that area will carry it. Less than one percent of people who become infected will get severely ill. Most severe cases, such as encephalitis or meningitis, have occurred in people over 50.

If signs and symptoms of encephalitis or meningitis are present, seek medical care immediately. Any level of the disease should be confirmed and reported to **Tarrant County Public Health (817-321-5350)**.

Follow the “4 D’s” for prevention and protection:

- **DUSK/DAWN** are the times of day when mosquitoes are most active, so you should try to stay indoors.
- **DRESS** in long sleeves and pants when you’re outside. For extra protection, you may want to spray thin clothing with repellent.
- **DEET** is an ingredient to look for in your insect repellent. Always wear repellent when outdoors and choose products that contain up to 20 percent DEET (10 percent DEET for children).
- **DRAIN** standing water in your backyard--old tires, flowerpots and clogged rain gutters are just a few sites that mosquitoes use to breed.

Homeowners frequently create their own mosquito problems. There are simple steps homeowners can do to reduce the number of mosquitoes in their yard. Mosquitoes are capable of having many generations in one year and in the heat of the summer they can go from egg to adult in about a week. The best way to prevent mosquito production is to remove any objects that hold water from your yard. Below is a list of places that mosquitoes can breed.

Tires: Place them in storage areas. Drill holes in the bottom of tire swings.

Gutters: Leaves tend to clog gutters. Clean them out.

Low Areas: Fill in low areas.

Faucets: Repair leaky faucets and pipes.

Plastic Wading Pools: Change the water weekly and store inside when not in use.

Bird Baths: Change water weekly.

Grass and Shrubs: Keep grass cut short and shrubs well trimmed around the house to reduce places for mosquitoes to hide.

Watering Troughs: Eliminate standing water around animal water troughs and change water weekly.

Irrigation: Don’t over water or allow water to stand for several days.

Also empty: Flower pots, garbage and recycling cans, boats and tarps, buckets, and barrels.