



Mosquito Update for McLennan County

City of Bellmead

City of Beverly Hills

City of Bruceville-Eddy

City of Crawford

City of Gholson

City of Golinda

City of Hallsburg

City of Hewitt

City of Lacy-Lakeview

City of Leroy

City of Lorena

City of Mart

City of McGregor

City of Moody

City of Riesel

City of Robinson

City of Ross

City of Waco

City of West

City of Woodway

McLennan County

(June 3, 2015) As summer begins and temperatures start to rise, conditions develop to create a good habitat for mosquitoes and the potential to spread diseases like West Nile Virus (WNV) and Chikungunya increases.

At this time, there are no human cases of West Nile Virus or Chikungunya in McLennan County. The Waco-McLennan County Public Health District will continue to update the community on any human cases as the summer season progresses.

The Health District is working with McLennan County and the cities within the County to eliminate mosquito-breeding sites by monitoring municipal properties for stagnant water and other potential mosquito habitats. Larvicide, debris removal and landscaping are all methods that can be used by cities to eliminate breeding sites.

The best way to protect you from mosquitoes is to follow the 3 D's of protection.

- **Defend** Use mosquito repellent. Wear light colored, loose fitting clothes and when practical, wear long sleeves and pants.
- **Drain** Drain any standing or stagnant water.
- **Dawn/Dusk** Different mosquito species bite different times of the day.

Always use mosquito repellent when you are outside. Use air conditioning or make sure there are screens on all doors and windows to keep mosquitoes from entering the home.

Other steps include

- Check for clogged rain gutters and clean them out.
- Remove discarded tires, and other items that could collect and hold water.
- Be sure to check for containers or trash in places that may be hard to see, such as under bushes or under your home.
- At least once or twice a week, empty water from flowerpots, pet food and water dishes, birdbaths, swimming pool covers, buckets, barrels, and cans.
- The mosquito travels about 150 feet from where it emerges. Talk with your neighbors about removing breeding sites on their property too.

The Health District urges people to check their property for any standing water or stagnant water because mosquitoes need only a small amount of water to develop their eggs into adult mosquitoes. A female mosquito lays up to 200 eggs at one time. It only takes 7 -14 days for an egg to hatch and become another flying mosquito. Elimination of potential mosquito breeding habitats is a critical key for to reducing the number of mosquitos in McLennan County. If you notice stagnant water in your area for a week or longer, report this problem to the Waco-McLennan County Public Health District at 254-750-5464 for assistance.

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