

Mosquito Control Spraying for Brookings

If weather conditions are favorable for effective spraying, the City of Brookings Street Department will continue to conduct ultra low volume ground spraying efforts for mosquitoes in residential areas.

Spraying will be done based on meeting established threshold criteria as indicated through surveillance data. Sprays must also be conducted during favorable conditions of weather; therefore, exact dates for sprays cannot be given. The exact time when spray trucks will be in a specific area is not known, but residents should watch for media releases and check the City's website for general information.

In order to be effective, it is imperative that sprays be conducted in the evening hours when the mosquito that transmits West Nile virus is most active and that the spray be done during ideal weather conditions.

A concentrated effort to complete the spray in as short a time as possible will be made in order to achieve best results. The City plans to spray between the hours of 7 and 11 p.m.; however, crews may continue the spraying efforts as late as 1 a.m., and from 5 a.m. to 7 a.m. in order to complete an area.

Residents are not required to relocate, stop activities, or take special precautions during mosquito control spraying. For safety reasons, residents should never deliberately overexpose themselves by approaching or following the vehicle during spraying. Persons who want to avoid all exposure to the chemical can take the precautions indicated on the City's website

Heavy rainfalls and/or above-average precipitation this season will drastically increase the number of floodwater mosquitoes of the species *Aedes vexans*. These mosquitoes are very unlikely to transmit West Nile virus to humans but are a nuisance. They are difficult to control as they can lay their eggs in dry areas and then emerge in great numbers following rains. Larval efforts to control these mosquitoes are insufficient due to the nature of this mosquito. Homeowners and businesses may want to consider local control of these mosquitoes on their properties using homeowner products found at their local home supply store or garden center. Private properties with large amounts of vegetation may also harbor more mosquitoes than normal and require local control.