



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sunday, August 7, 2016
(347) 396-4177

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO SPRAY PESTICIDE FROM TRUCKS FOR
THIRD TIME IN 2016 TO REDUCE RISK OF WEST NILE VIRUS**

Criteria for spraying to prevent West Nile virus met in several Brooklyn and Queens neighborhoods

No Zika virus found, no Zika transmission from local mosquitoes in NYC

August 7, 2016 – To reduce mosquito activity and the risk of West Nile virus, the Health Department will spray pesticide from trucks in parts of Brooklyn and Queens on **Tuesday, August 9 between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6 a.m. the following morning**, weather permitting. In case of bad weather, application will be delayed until Wednesday, August 10 during the same hours.

The Brooklyn and Queens neighborhoods listed below have met sufficient criteria for truck spraying of adulticide – an increase in West Nile virus activity as well as high numbers of mosquitoes in the Culex family that have been known to transmit West Nile Virus in New York City since 1999. These mosquitoes are not known to transmit Zika virus.

Neighborhoods in Staten Island, the Bronx, and Queens have previously been treated with adulticide due to a significant presence of *Aedes Albopictus*, or Asian Tiger mosquitoes, in traps set by the Health Department. No Zika virus has been found in any mosquito in New York City. Although *Aedes Albopictus* mosquitoes can carry Zika virus, they are not responsible for the current outbreak in Latin and Central America. *Aedes Aegypti*, a cousin to *Aedes Albopictus* which has never been found in New York City, is responsible for the current outbreak.

As part of its aggressive three-year, \$21 million plan to protect New Yorkers from Zika, the Health Department will spray pesticide in areas where *Aedes Albopictus* are found in significant numbers as a precaution. The Department remains cautiously optimistic that Zika virus will not be found in mosquitoes in New York City.

“While we do not expect to find Zika in New York City’s mosquitoes, we are taking no chances. We are moving forward with a safe but aggressive plan to spray pesticide when we find significant numbers of mosquitoes that could possibly carry Zika,” said **Health Commissioner Dr. Mary T. Bassett**. “New Yorkers should continue to enjoy outdoor activities this summer while taking the usual precautions against mosquitoes, including wearing repellent and reporting standing water to 311.”

Locations of Application in Brooklyn and Queens to Reduce Risk of West Nile Virus

Borough	Neighborhoods	Boundaries	Zip Codes
Brooklyn	Parts of Canarsie, East New York, and Starrett City	Bordered by Foster Avenue and Stanley Avenue to the North; Schenck Avenue to the East; Belt	Parts of 11207, 11208, 11236, 11239

		Parkway to the South and Rockaway Parkway to the West.	
Queens	Parts of Astoria, Jackson Heights, Queens, Steinway and Woodside	Bordered by East River to the North; 92 nd Street to Grand Central Parkway to 81 st Street to the East; 35 th Avenue to the South and Broadway, Newtown Road and Steinway Street to the West.	Parts of 11103, 11105, 11369, 11370, 11371, 11372, 11377

For the sprayings in Brooklyn and Queens, the Health Department will use a very low concentration of DUETTM. When properly used, this product poses no significant risks to human health. The Health Department recommends that people **take the following precautions to minimize direct exposure:**

- Whenever possible, stay indoors during spraying. People with asthma or other respiratory conditions are encouraged to stay inside during spraying since direct exposure could worsen these conditions.
- Air conditioners may remain on. However, if you wish to reduce the possibility of indoor exposure to pesticides, set the air conditioner vent to the closed position, or choose the re-circulate function.
- Remove children’s toys, outdoor equipment, and clothes from outdoor areas during spraying. If outdoor equipment and toys are exposed to pesticides, wash them with soap and water before using again.
- Wash skin and clothing exposed to pesticides with soap and water. Always wash your produce thoroughly with water before cooking or eating.

Reducing Exposure to Mosquitoes

- Consider limiting time outdoors between dusk and dawn in areas with significant mosquito infestations.
- Wear protective clothing when outdoors, and use an approved insect repellent containing picaridin, DEET, oil of lemon eucalyptus (not for children under three), or products that contain the active ingredient IR3535.
- Make sure windows have screens and repair or replace screens that have tears or holes.
- Eliminate any standing water from your property and dispose of containers that can collect water. Standing water is a violation of the New York City Health Code.
- Make sure roof gutters are clean and draining properly.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas and hot tubs. Keep them empty or covered if not in use; drain water that collects in pool covers.
- Report standing water by calling **311** or visiting nyc.gov.

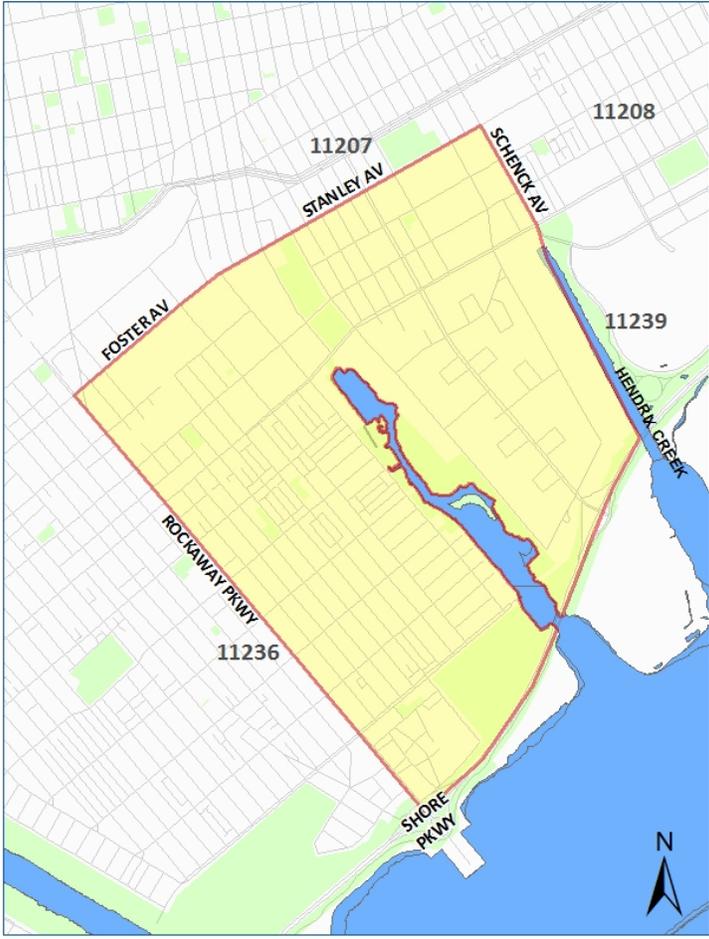
Maps Depicting Specific Areas for Pesticide Application

**Planned Spray Areas
In Brooklyn, August 9, 2016
NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene**



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This map, and the application area it depicts, is an approximation and should not be relied on as a specific description of the area to be treated.

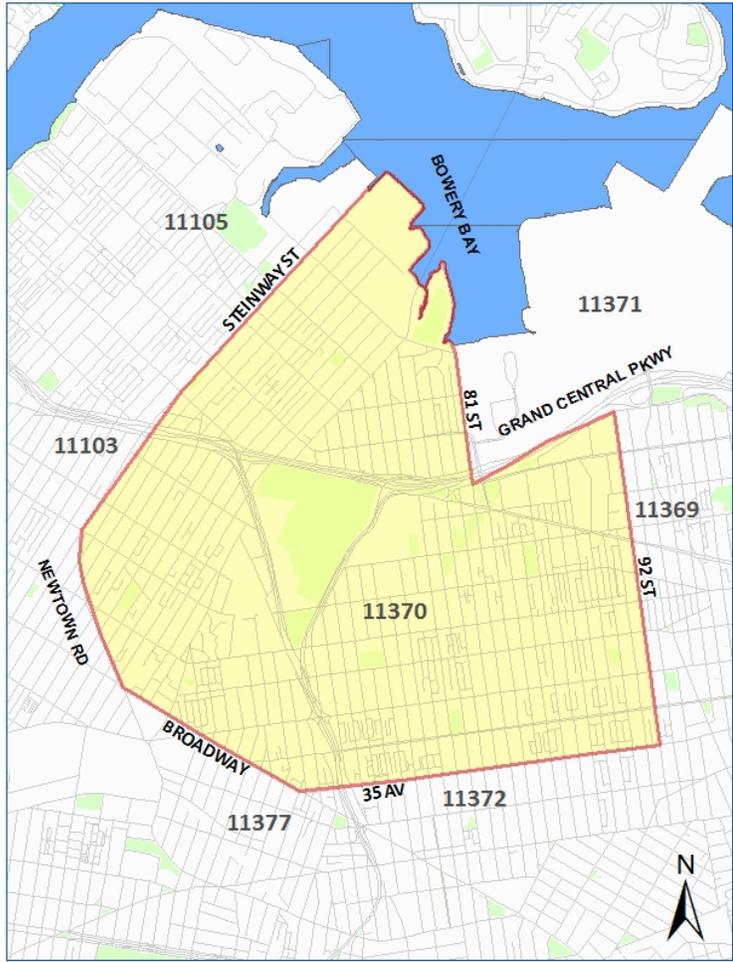


**Planned Spray Areas
In Queens, August 9, 2016
NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene**



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