FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, August 2, 2016 (347) 396-4177

HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO SPRAY PESTICIDE FROM TRUCKS FOR SECOND TIME IN 2016 TO REDUCE RISK OF ZIKA AND WEST NILE VIRUSES

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

As a precaution, Department will target parts of Staten Island and the Bronx, where significant numbers of Aedes Albopictus mosquitoes, potential transmitters of Zika, were found

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

August 2, 2016 – To reduce mosquito activity and the risk of Zika and West Nile viruses, the Health Department will spray pesticide from trucks in parts of Queens, the Bronx, and Staten Island on **Thursday, August 4 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 Monday, August 8 during the same hours.

The Staten Island and Bronx neighborhoods listed below are being 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 repellant and reporting standing water to 311."

The Staten Island and Queens neighborhoods listed below have also 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.

Locations of Application in Staten Island and the Bronx to Reduce Risk of Zika virus

| Borough | Neighborhoods | Boundaries | Zip Codes |
|---------|---------------|------------|-----------|
| | | | |

| Staten Island | Parts of Arlington, | Bordered by Pralls River to the | Parts of |
|---------------|-------------------------------|--|------------|
| | Bloomfield, Graniteville, | West; Richmond Terrace to the | 10302, |
| | Mariner's Harbor, New | North; Staten Island Expressway & | 10303, |
| | Springville, Port Ivory, Port | Victory Boulevard to the South; and | 10310 and |
| | Richmond, Travis, | Crystal Avenue to the East, Forest | 10314 |
| | Westerleigh | Avenue to the West, Willowbrook | |
| | | Avenue and Port Richmond Avenue | |
| | | to the East | |
| Bronx | | Bordered by East 222 nd Street to the | Parts of |
| | Parts of Baychester, Co-Op | South; Paulding Ave, Gunther | 10466, |
| | City, Eastchester, Edenwald, | Avenue, Barnes Avenue, Bussing | 10469, and |
| | Olinville, Wakefield, | Avenue, Hoxie St and Cranford | 10475 |
| | Williamsbridge, Woodlawn, | Avenue to the West; Hudson River | |
| | op City | to the East; and Westchester County | |
| | | Line to the North | |
| | Parts of Bronx, Castle Hill, | Bordered by Bronx River to the | Parts of |
| | Clason Point, Harding Park, | West; East River to the South; | 10473 |
| | Soundview, Unionport, | Westchester Creek to the East; and | |
| | Westchester, Cemetery, Park, | Story Avenue to the North. | |
| | etc., | | |

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

| Borough | Neighborhoods | Boundaries | Zip Codes |
|---------------|--|---|---|
| Staten Island | Parts of Arrochar, Dongan Hills, Ft. Wadsworth, Grasmere, Midland Beach, New Dorp, Old Town, South Beach | Bordered by Atlantic Ocean to the South; Sand Lane to Vulcan Boulevard to Hickory Avenue to Hylan Boulevard to the East; N. Railroad Avenue, South Railroad Avenue and Old Town Road to the North; New Dorp Lane to Hylan Boulevard to Lincoln Avenue to the West | Parts of 10304, 10305, 10306 |
| Queens | Parts of Elmhurst, Hunters Point, Maspeth, Queens, Sunnyside, West Maspeth, Woodside | Bordered by 58 th Street to the East; 29 th Street to the West; Review Avenue, Laurel Hill Boulevard and 56 th Road to the South. | Parts of 11101, 11104, 11377, 11378 |

For the sprayings in the Bronx, Queens, and Staten Island, the Health Department will use a very low concentration of DUET Dual-Action Adulticide. 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 <u>nyc.gov</u>.

Maps Depicting Specific Areas for Pesticide Application



Planned Spray Areas In Staten Island, August 4, 2016 NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene





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 Bronx, August 4, 2016 NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene





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Planned Spray Areas In Bronx, August 4, 2016 NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene





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Planned Spray Areas In Queens, August 4, 2016 NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene





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