



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, August 29, 2016
(347) 396-4177

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO SPRAY PESTICIDE FROM TRUCKS FOR
EIGHTH 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 Queens and Brooklyn, where significant numbers of Aedes albopictus mosquitoes, potential transmitters of Zika, were found

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

August 29, 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 and Brooklyn on **Wednesday, August 31 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 Thursday, September 1 during the same hours.

The Queens and Brooklyn 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 repellent and reporting standing water to 311.”

The 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 *Culex* mosquitoes 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 Queens and Brooklyn to Reduce Risk of West Nile and Zika Viruses

Neighborhoods	Boundaries	Zip Codes
---------------	------------	-----------

Parts of Queens: Briarwood, Elmhurst, Forest Hills, Forest Hills Gardens, Glendale, Jamaica, Jamaica Hills, Kew Gardens, Kew Gardens Hill, Maspeth, Middle Village, Rego Park, Richmond Hill, and Ridgewood	Bordered by Queens Boulevard and Grand Central Parkway to the North; Flushing Avenue and Long Island Expressway to the West; Long Island Railroad, 73 rd Place, Myrtle Avenue and Jamaica Avenue to the South; and 150 th Street to the East	Parts of 11367, 11373, 11374, 11375, 11378, 11379, 11385, 11415, 11418, 11432, 11435
Parts of Brooklyn: Bath Beach, Bensonhurst, Coney Island, Gravesend and Seagate	Bordered by 86 th Street to the North; Shell Road to West 8 th Street to the East; Atlantic Ocean to the South; and Bay Parkway to the West	Parts of 11214, 11223, 11224

For the sprayings in Queens and Brooklyn, the Health Department will use very low concentrations of DUET™ and Anvil® 10+10. When properly used, these products poses no significant risks to human health. The Health Department recommends that people **take the following precautions to minimize direct exposure:**

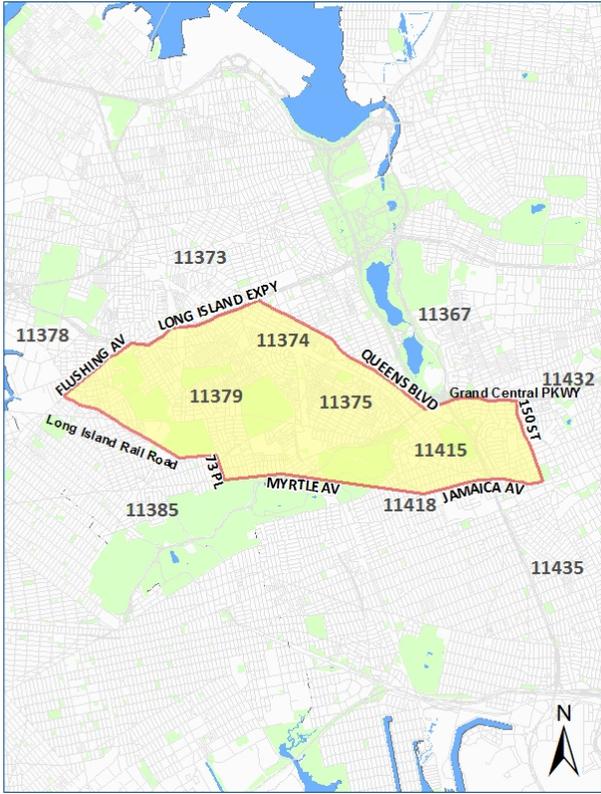
- Whenever possible, stay indoors during spraying. People with asthma or other respiratory conditions are encouraged to stay inside during spraying since direct exposure could worsen these conditions.
- Air conditioners may remain on. However, if you wish to reduce the possibility of indoor exposure 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 Queens, August 31, 2016
NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene**



NYC
Health

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 Brooklyn, August 31, 2016
NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene**



NYC
Health

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.

###

MEDIA CONTACT: Christopher Miller/Julien Martinez, (347) 396-4177
pressoffice@health.nyc.gov