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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Shelby County Health Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 9, 2021

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT MOSQUITO CONTROL ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF JULY 12, 2021

SHELBY COUNTY, TN – The Shelby County Health Department’s Mosquito Control Program routinely traps and tests mosquitoes for the presence of West Nile Virus (WNV) as a part of a comprehensive program to limit the spread of the virus through Shelby County. This week, mosquitoes positive for the West Nile Virus were identified in the following zip codes: **38111, 38116, 38128, 38108, and 38122**. Last week, positives were identified in zip code **38017**. See **Map**: <https://arcg.is/05jGym>.

Mosquitoes can transmit West Nile Virus to humans when they bite them. Residents of zip codes where the virus has been detected are advised to be especially careful to avoid mosquito bites in order to prevent West Nile Virus, which can cause serious illness.

Since February of this year, the Shelby County Health Department’s Mosquito Control Program has treated areas by applying larvicides to standing bodies of water. These actions are consistent with efforts to be proactive in decreasing the adult mosquito population. Larviciding is the practice of applying an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registered insecticide to areas where mosquito breeding has been confirmed. It is the most effective way of eliminating mosquito populations. Please view our [ArcGIS story map](#) that details our mosquito control prevention work.

Additionally, SCHD will conduct mosquito control activities, including truck-mounted spraying (adulticiding) of EPA-approved insecticides, **weather permitting***, in specific ZIP codes where the West Nile Virus has been detected, and portions of adjoining zip codes, according to the following schedule:

Monday, July 12, 2021:

8:30-11:30 p.m.

Zip Codes: 38116, 38118, 38130, 38131, 38132

Route Map: <https://arcg.is/1uCrre>

Tuesday, July 13, 2021:

8:30-11:30 p.m.

Zip Codes: 38128, 38108, 38134, 38122

Route Map: <https://arcg.is/OnCrj>

Wednesday, July 14, 2021:

8:30-11:30 p.m.

ZIP Codes: 38108, 38122, 38128, 38117, 38120, 38111, 38117, 38112

Route Map: <https://arcg.is/1WfXi10>

Thursday, July 15, 2021:

8:30-11:30 p.m.

ZIP Codes: 38111, 38152, 38117, 38118

Route Map: <https://arcg.is/1POP8i0>

Go to www.shelbytnhealth.com to view the most current schedule and the exact boundaries of each scheduled spray. New maps will be added weekly to reflect updated schedules.

Truck mounted spraying only effectively kills adult mosquitoes currently flying at the time the insecticide is sprayed. Because of this, residents are highly encouraged to be vigilant in controlling mosquito populations around their homes and businesses and preventing mosquito bites. Individuals are encouraged to practice the **4 D's**:

- **DEFEND** yourself by using insect repellent with DEET. Follow label instructions.
- **DRESS** in long sleeves and pants. Wear loose and light colored clothing when outdoors.
- **DUSK/DAWN** is the time when mosquitoes are most active. Stay indoors.
- **DRAIN** standing water and install or repair window screens.

Individuals with chronic health problems such as asthma or other lung conditions may want to remain indoors during the time of spraying. Citizens who **do not** want their residences to be sprayed should contact the Vector Control Program by emailing Vector.Control@shelbycountyttn.gov or calling (901) 222-9715.

* To ensure the insecticide is most effective, the scheduled spraying will be canceled if any of the following weather conditions are present for the majority of the schedule spray time:

- Rain chance of 65% or greater
- Wind speeds 11mph or greater
- Temperature less than 60 degrees Fahrenheit

Follow @ShelbyTNHealth on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram for the most up-to-date cancellations of any scheduled sprayings.

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