

## Information - Communiqué

For Immediate Release Thursday - July 12, 2007

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

## WEST NILE VIRUS MOSQUITO FOGGING TO BE CONDUCTED TONIGHT JULY 12, 2007 UNDER PROVINCIAL HEALTH ORDER

**Winnipeg, MB –** On July 6, 2007 the Province of Manitoba issued a Health Order for Winnipeg to conduct a fogging program for West Nile Virus (WNV) control. The Province of Manitoba has directed that further West Nile Virus fogging be conducted in the areas listed below, tonight, July 12, 2007 between the hours of 9:30 p.m. and 6:30 a.m., weather permitting. The issuance of this Public Health Order means that buffer zones will not be in effect throughout the areas being treated tonight for the West Nile Virus fogging program.

Based on direction from the Province of Manitoba, West Nile Virus fogging is to be carried out in the following specific Insect Management Areas (IMA) within Winnipeg tonight, July 12, 2007 (Buffer zones not respected).

Insect Management Area	West Nile Virus Fogging Program - Neighbourhoods
New Insect Management Areas to be Treated tonight, July 12	
48	Inkster Gardens, Mandalay West, The Maples
49	Garden City, Leila - McPhillips Triangle, Margaret Park, Templeton - Sinclair
51	Amber Trails, Leila North, Riverbend, Rivergrove, Rosser - Old Kildonan, West Kildonan Industrial

Following tonight's West Nile Virus fogging, the Province of Manitoba will continue to monitor their WNV surveillance information on an ongoing basis and will add additional areas within Winnipeg, if, and when, they determine that the risk to human health warrants further fogging under the WNV program.

In collaboration with the Province of Manitoba, the City of Winnipeg will issue a Public Service Announcement, providing a minimum of eight (8) hours advanced notification, to advise citizens as to when and where West Nile Virus fogging operations will specifically be occurring on that given night. This information is also available by calling the Bugline at 986-3210 or by visiting the website at <a href="Winnipeg.ca/bugline">Winnipeg.ca/bugline</a>.

The delivery of the West Nile Virus Program, which includes the monitoring of *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes is a provincial responsibility. Weekly average trap counts of *Culex tarsalis* by regional health authority are available on the Province of Manitoba's West Nile virus website at Gov.mb.ca/health/wnv.

For more information on West Nile virus, visit <u>Gov.mb.ca/health/wnv</u> or call Health Links at (204) 788-8200 or 1-888-315-9257.

It is important to note that fogging will not occur if there is significant rainfall, if temperatures are below 13 degrees Celsius or wind speeds are not conducive for fogging.

The insecticide Malathion for ultra low volume (ULV) applications will be used. This insecticide has been approved for use in Canada by Health Canada (PMRA – Pest Management Agency). Malathion will be used in accordance with federally-approved label directions by licensed pesticide applicators.

Citizens are also reminded to take personal protection measures by:

- Reducing the time you spend outdoors between dusk and dawn. The peak
  mosquito hours are around dusk and dawn, but *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes will
  also bite during the night.
- Wearing light-coloured, loose-fitting, long-sleeved tops and long pants when outside, especially between dusk and dawn.
- Applying insect repellent containing DEET, according to Health Canada Guidelines. (DEET is not recommended for children under the age of 6 months).
- Checking that door and window screens fit tightly and are free of holes

For additional information on West Nile virus and personal protection measures, please visit Gov.mb.ca/health/wnv/intro.html#protect.