

For Immediate Release Thursday, August 19, 2010

Update on the status of the City of Winnipeg Pesticide Use Permit

Winnipeg, MB. – Following Council approval of a motion in June to review the City's current adult mosquito control policy, The City of Winnipeg has been working with Manitoba Conservation – Environmental Assessment and Licensing Branch, regarding three requests for revision to the City of Winnipeg's Pesticide Use Permit.

The first request dealt with changing the initial notification period before Malathion 95ULV® can be used for adult nuisance mosquito fogging, from 48hrs to 24hrs. This change has been approved. Reducing the notification lead time will allow the City of Winnipeg to be more responsive when the adult nuisance mosquito population is high and the situation is such that the environmental conditions are expected to remain favorable for mosquito development (HIGH AFA). This change will not take effect until 2011 because this criteria is only attained at the beginning of the season.

The second revision was to the criteria for fogging, reducing from three consecutive days of a city wide average trap count of 25 female adult mosquitoes, to two days. The Environmental Assessment and Licensing Branch has asked the City of Winnipeg to provide more evidence to support this change. We will continue to research and will provide a recommendation in this regard.

Finally, it was determined that the Environmental Assessment and Licensing Branch will require evidence that the existing buffer zone of 100 meters could be reduced in size without impinging on a resident's wishes to have a pesticide-free property. In an effort to obtain this evidence, the Insect Control Branch will be undertaking field trials to better determine the effective dispersion, settling and distribution of Malathion 95ULV® in varying environmental conditions. All currently registered Anti Pesticide Registrants (APRs) will be respected during this research study when approved by the Province.

OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Mosquito Control

Larviciding and barrier treatments are continuing in and around the City of Winnipeg. With the recent rains, we have seen adult nuisance and vector mosquito numbers on the rise and the ICB is responding to the ever-changing conditions and will fog for adult mosquitoes if conditions warrant.

EBB Control

Beginning August 23, 2010, the City of Winnipeg Insect Control Branch will treat American Elm trees on public property utilizing Dursban Turf® - **weather permitting**. The program is intended to control elm bark beetles, the carriers of Dutch Elm Disease (DED).

Treatment will take place in various locations throughout the city where DED has claimed American Elm trees. Also, as a preventative measure the City treats areas with large stands of American Elms on a two year rotational basis. This year these areas include:

- Kildonan Park, Assiniboine Park, St. Vital Park, Elmwood Cemetery, Crescent Drive Park, Fraser's Grove Park and King's Park
- Boulevard trees in **portions** of Insect Management Areas 2, 5, 10, 11, 13, 14, 25, 29, 30, 32, 33 and 40.

HELP FIGHT THE BITE

Property owners are also encouraged to eliminate standing water on their properties by taking one of the following steps:

Dump It! - containers Drain It! - eavestroughing or unused containers Cover It! - rain water collection containers Fill It! - low-lying areas Treat It! - biological larvicide

Interested individuals may acquire more information by contacting 311, or by visiting the City's Insect Control website at Winnipeg.ca/bugline.

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Media inquiries may be directed to the City of Winnipeg Media Inquiry Line at (204) 986-6000 or via email at MediaInquiry@winnipeg.ca.