

## **Press Release**

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### **Contact**

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## **Summer Mosquito Spraying Begins to Prevent and Control West Nile Virus**

*Residents Encouraged to Help by Eliminating Standing Water in Yards to Prevent Mosquito Growth*

**WHAT:** Columbus Public Health is kicking off its summer spraying schedule as part of its comprehensive West Nile prevention strategy. As part of this effort, residents also are encouraged to eliminate standing water in their yards where mosquitos can grow in order to reduce the need for spraying.

Weekly spraying begins on June 30, 2016- July 1, 2016 and will continue in key areas through early September. The health protection effort is part of a comprehensive West Nile prevention strategy which also includes trapping mosquitoes, investigating complaints, treating standing water, and spraying in areas with high mosquito counts and disease presence.

**WHO:** Columbus Public Health

**WHEN:** Thursday June 30, 2016- July 1, 2016  
Between 4–6 a.m.

**WHERE:** On Thursday, June 30, the following parks will be sprayed:

- Anheuser Busch Park
- Antrim Park
- Big Walnut Park
- Cooper Park
- Deshler Park
- Driving Park
- Fairwood Park
- Franklin Park
- Innis Park
- Iuka Park
- Lazelle Woods Park
- Krumm Park
- Maloney Park
- Mock Park
- Nafzger Park
- Nelson Park
- Portman Park
- Smith Farms
- Tuttle Park
- Wolfe Park

On Friday, July 1, the following parks will be sprayed:

- American Addition Park
- Berliner Park
- Bicentennial Park
- Dodge Park
- Downtown Columbus / Old Whittier
- Easthaven Park
- Goodale Park
- Harrison West Park
- Holton Park
- Huntington Park
- Lindburgh Park
- Linden Park
- Marion Franklin Park
- McCoy Park
- McKinley Park
- Rhodes Park
- Schiller Park
- Short Street Area
- South Bike Path
- Stockbridge Park
- Westgate Park
- Westmoor Park
- Woodward Park

**DETAILS:** In addition to eliminating standing water, residents also can protect themselves from West Nile by wearing insect repellent with DEET, staying indoors or wearing long sleeves and pants during early morning and late evening hours, checking and repairing window screens and treating rain barrels.

In addition to residents' efforts, spraying helps prevent West Nile Virus, an illness caused by infected mosquitoes that carry the disease from infected birds to people. Columbus Public Health sprays between 4 and 6 a.m., using the least toxic chemicals available.

Weekly spraying areas are determined by reports from field staff, the number and type of mosquitoes trapped, the number of infected mosquitoes and evidence of human disease. Updated weekly schedules and spraying maps are available at [publichealth.columbus.gov](http://publichealth.columbus.gov).

**MORE INFO:** For more information on West Nile, as well as weekly spraying maps and schedules, visit Columbus Public Health at [publichealth.columbus.gov](http://publichealth.columbus.gov). Additional information on West Nile is also available at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) and [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).