

**To the Mayor and Members of the City Council****June 3, 2025**

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**SUBJECT: 2025 MOSQUITO SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM AND
WEST NILE VIRUS CONTROL RESPONSE UPDATE**

The purpose of this Informal Report is to provide an update on the City's mosquito surveillance program and response to West Nile Virus (WNV) activity.

Mosquito Surveillance Program Overview

The Environmental Services Department oversees an annual mosquito surveillance program from May 1 to October 31, in partnership with Tarrant County Public Health (TCPH) and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS). Each week, samples are collected from 53 locations across Fort Worth, at fire stations, parks, and community centers as shown in Figure 1 below. These samples are analyzed for the presence of West Nile Virus. As of May 15, 2025, the City of Fort Worth has received one (1) WNV positive trap result. Fiscal year 2024 mosquito surveillance program expenses were \$168,219.20. Fiscal year 2025 mosquito surveillance program expenses are budgeted at \$175,000.



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Figure 1: Mosquito Trap Locations in Fort Worth (2025)

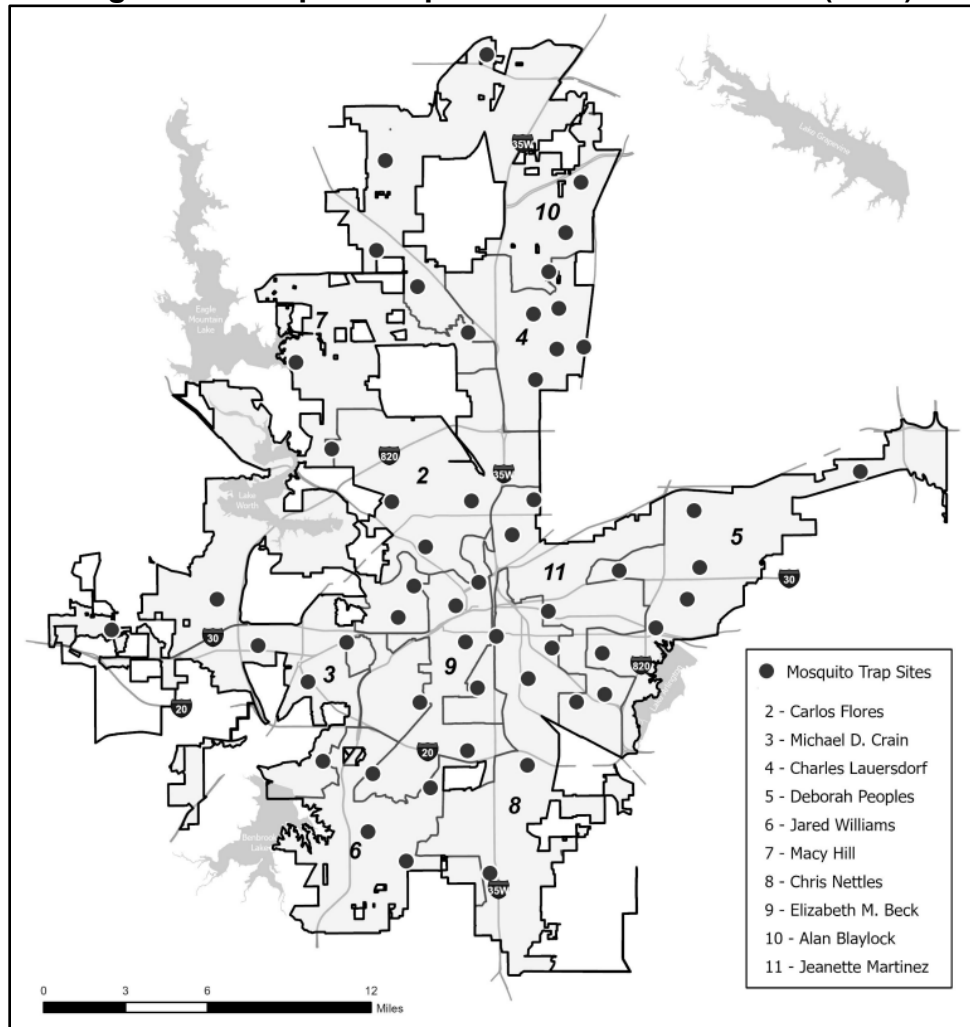


Figure 1 displays 53 monitoring locations for mosquitoes in 2025.

WNV Evidence-Based Control Response

The City partners with TCPH and DSHS for the testing portion of its mosquito control surveillance program. The results provided by this collaboration provide data to guide decisions on targeted actions to reduce WNV risk. The City's response plan, outlined in five phases based on illness risk include public education, larviciding, and targeted spraying in areas with positive WNV results. Figure 2 shows the City's five phase response plan.

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Figure 2: Phased Response to West Nile Virus in Fort Worth

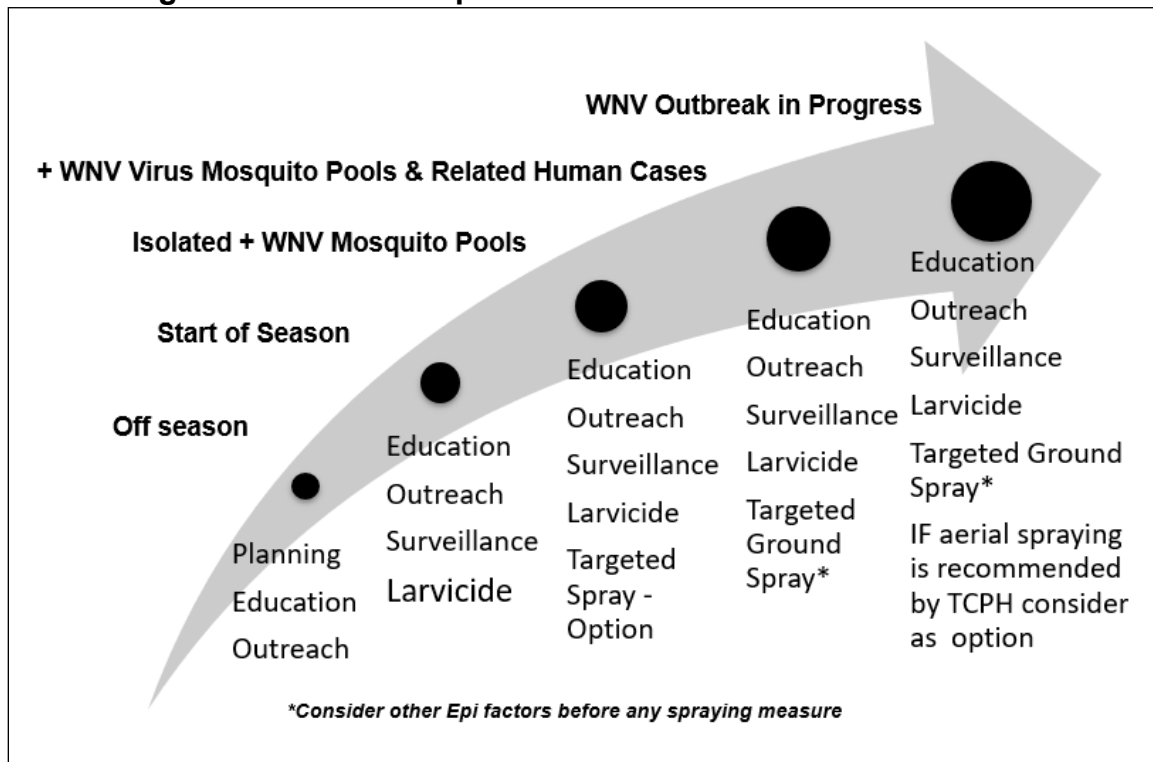


Figure 2 displays the five phases of planned response to West Nile Virus in Fort Worth.

Targeted Ground Spraying Factors

Ground spraying is used to temporarily reduce mosquito populations. The decision to spray is based on an analysis of several factors, including:

- Number of consecutive positive test results (at any one site)
- Number of mosquitoes caught in each trap
- Environmental investigation of the positive trap site surrounding area
- Vector index (a measure of illness risk)
- Weather conditions

Additionally, if the City receives a report of a human WNV case, staff conduct an environmental investigation in the surrounding area and evaluate results from additional mosquito traps set nearby.

As a reminder, please protect yourself, your family, and the community:

- Check for and dump standing water from outdoor containers (pools, toys, planters, birdbaths, trash cans).
- Keep landscaping trimmed and routinely clean gutters.
- Ensure all window and door screens are in place and in good repair.



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- Dress in long pants and sleeves to protect yourself from bites.
- Avoid outdoor activities at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.
- Apply insect repellent with DEET, Picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or another EPA-approved ingredient when outdoors.

For additional information related to WNV, visit: www.fortworthtexas.gov/mosquitoes or <https://www.cdc.gov/west-nile-virus>.

For questions regarding this information, please contact Wyndie Turpen, Environmental Services Assistant Director at 817-392-6982.

Jesus “Jay” Chapa
City Manager