



For Immediate Release: 09.12.02

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Mosquito Abatement District Schedules Spraying In Oak Park

As the number of confirmed West Nile Virus cases continue to increase in Illinois, the Des Plaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District is expected to spray a second time in Oak Park, possibly as early as tonight.

Spraying in Oak Park, which would occur between 9 p.m. and midnight, could be postponed until Friday or even Monday, depending on weather conditions.

Residents who wish to be notified prior to spraying can call the District at 708.447.1765.

Flyers advising residents of the spraying are being distributed throughout the community, including being sent home with students who attend Oak Park's public schools. In addition, notices have been posted in senior citizens residences, in businesses and along major thoroughfares throughout the community.

An advisory also is scrolling on the municipal cable television channel 6 and posted on the Village's website, www.oak-park.us, which includes links to the Centers for Disease Control, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Oak Park is one of 31 communities within the Des Plaines Valley Mosquito Abatement District's 77-square-mile jurisdiction, all of which have been sprayed in response to confirmed cases of West Nile virus in birds, mosquitoes and humans.

Insecticides to be used have been approved by the USEPA and should not pose any undue risk to humans or animals, breaking down in sunlight within 24 hours and producing little residual effect. However, persons with asthma or other respiratory ailments may wish to stay inside during spraying with their windows closed. Air conditioners may be set to recirculate and the exhaust closed.

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