Follow up targeted mosquito spraying scheduled - July 22

PITTSFIELD, Mass. – Due to the presence of a persistently high mosquito population in the vicinity of Brattlebrook Park and Marchesio Park, a follow up targeted truck-mounted mosquito spray application will occur 11 p.m.-midnight, Monday, July 22. **Targeted spraying is limited to only the streets surrounding this specific area.**

A map of the scheduled spray area can be directly accessed here: http://cms2.revize.com/revize/pittsfieldma/city_hall/health_and_inspections/2019%20Mosquito%20Control/City_Map36x36_spray%20zones_20190715.pdf. The map is located on the Health Department page on the city’s website, www.cityofpittfield.org. Click on “2019 Mosquito Control Update” to view the map.

In the event of rain, spraying may be rescheduled for the evening of Tuesday, July 23.

Scheduled spraying is done after dusk when mosquitoes are most active, people are inside and bees are dormant. Exposure to the insecticide can be reduced by staying indoors during spraying. There are otherwise no special precautions that should be taken. The product used in the truck-mounted spray application breaks down quickly and does not leave a toxic residue.

Residents are encouraged to register in the city’s CodeRed notification system to receive either text/email/phone alerts of scheduled spray application in particular areas at https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/8E853AC9FDEB

West Nile Virus is most commonly spread through the bite of an infected mosquito. The best methods of protection to prevent mosquito-borne illness includes the following:

- When outdoors, wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt and socks.
- Use a repellent with DEET according to the instructions on the product label.
- Keep mosquitoes out of one’s residence by repairing holes in screens and making sure screens fit tightly to doors and windows.
- Schedule outdoor events to avoid the hours between dusk and dawn, when mosquitoes are most active.
- Remove areas of standing water around one’s property twice a week to eliminate sources of mosquito breeding.

Residents may request to be excluded from pesticide application by submitting an Exclusion Request Form which can be obtained at http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/pesticides/mosquito/pesticide-application-exclusions.html.

Exclusions will take effect 14 days after the request is made. The form is also available by contacting the Mosquito Control Project at 413-447-9808 or email chris@berkshiremosquito.org.

For more information about mosquito-borne viruses call the Pittsfield Health Department at 499-9411 or visit the city’s Health Department page at http://www.cityofpittsfield.org/city_hall/health_and_inspections/index.php or the Massachusetts Department of Public Health website at https://www.mass.gov/mosquito-borne-diseases.