

**CLARENDON BLACKHAWK MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT  
PRESS RELEASE - August 31, 2010**

West Nile Virus has amplified within the adult mosquito population to a level where transmission to humans is likely. Positive mosquito samples have been found throughout suburban Cook and DuPage counties. Residents are encouraged to use a common sense approach in avoiding exposure to adult mosquitoes and any potential mosquito-borne diseases. If possible, avoid outdoor activities around dusk. If not possible, wear shoes, socks, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. Loose fitting, light colored clothing is best. Appropriate use of insect repellents per manufacturer's instructions is recommended. Window screens should be inspected and repaired if damaged to prevent mosquitoes from entering the home. In addition, openings around window air conditioners, clothes dryer vents, etc. should be eliminated for the same reason.

Significant rainfall earlier in the month created high numbers of nuisance mosquitoes. While this species is not involved in WNV transmission, it is an aggressive biter making its presence known! With the decline of this species and subsequent mosquito annoyance, many people are under the false assumption that mosquitoes are not present, and are not taking precautionary measures to avoid mosquito bite exposure. However, residents are cautioned that the species of mosquito involved in disease transmission is a passive mosquito, and not an aggressive biter with its presence often undetected. It is a very localized mosquito, flying only a short distance from its breeding site. The District encourages residents to look for potential mosquito breeding sources around the home and take the following simple steps:

- 1) Throw away all trash that can hold water as cans, jars, bottles, etc.
- 2) Clean rain gutters/downspouts to prevent water from standing in gutters or on flat roofs.
- 3) Change water in bird baths, wading pools, etc. at least once a week.
- 4) Maintaining swimming pools properly.
- 5) Remove or turn over containers, buckets, etc. which may accumulate water.
- 6) Screen rain barrels to prevent adult mosquitoes from depositing eggs on the water's surface.
- 7) Aerate ornamental ponds and stock with goldfish or other surface feeding fish to control mosquito production.
- 8) Dispose of any used tires without rims to prevent water accumulation.

Finally, the District utilized contingency adult control measures against this species on August 6 and again on August 19. Adult control measures will be utilized on Thursday September 2, 2010 (weather permitting) between the hours of 7:30pm and midnight to reduce the WNV viral transmission cycle. The alternate date if operations are not conducted on that night is Friday September 3 during the same time frame.