

Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

AERIAL SPRAYING MAP

For Immediate Release - September 14, 2017

The Texas Department of State Health Services has provided the following spray area map for the dates of September 14th through the 20th. Weather permitting the spraying will start tonight and will be conducted over different areas per night, from dusk till dawn.

The large aircraft, a modified C-130 military aircraft, can be seen flying low and heard from a distance. The amount of insecticide used is about an ounce (one to two tablespoons) per acre. If you would prefer to stay inside and close your windows and doors when spraying takes place, you can, but is not necessary.



The pilots will be conducting flights for aerial surveying during daytime hours. Do not be alarmed, these flights are not releasing insecticide.

Organized outdoor activities such as football games will still see the low flying planes. The aircraft is sophisticated enough to allow the insecticide spray to be regulated, and the pilots will stop the spraying as they fly over these highly populated areas.

The insecticide that will be used is Naled. According to the CDC, when large areas need to be treated quickly aerial spraying is the most effective and does not present a risk to people, pets or other animals. The insecticide is dispersed by airplanes equipped with nozzles that create droplets just the right size to kill mosquitoes. Once any remaining droplets settle to the ground, they quickly break down on surfaces, in water and in sunlight.

Here are some ways that you can help eliminate mosquito problems:

- Help eliminate any standing water (even small amounts) to prevent mosquitoes from laying their eggs. If water cannot be eliminated, such as in ornamental water features, use larvicides (available at many retailers) or other control measures to minimize opportunities for breeding. For example, you might be able to add fish that eat larvae to a pond, or add a fountain or aerator to keep the water moving.
- Use window and door screens to keep mosquitoes from entering your home, workplace, or children's schools.
- Use EPA-registered insect repellents to prevent getting bitten. Products that are EPA-registered have been confirmed to be safe and effective when you follow the directions.
- Dress in light-colored clothing, long pants, and long sleeves.

Before then continue to monitor our website <u>www.mctxoem.org</u> for any further information.

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