

Division of Administration and Finance Facilities Management

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CAMPUS MOSQUITO CONTROL SPRAYING TO OCCUR JULY 25

Houston, July 23, 2013 – On Thursday, July 25, the campus pest control provider will be conducting mosquito spraying throughout campus between the hours of 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The spray will be administered via cart mounted mist system and small back-pack units. All staff and students should remain indoors while the spraying is taking place in their immediate vicinity. The spray dissipates within 5 minutes at which time it is safe to go outdoors.

As reported in the news, there have been confirmed cases of West Nile virus in the Houston area. Thus far the cases have been isolated primarily to northwest Houston. The Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services office (HCPHES) is treating most of Houston on a weekly basis. Facilities Management is supplementing that with campus sprayings to help keep the mosquito population around campus as controlled as possible.

HCPHES recommends the following procedures to limit exposure to mosquitoes that may carry the West Nile virus:

- **Protect yourself** from the West Nile virus with the 4 D's. 1 Stay indoors at Dusk and Dawn. This is the time of day that mosquitoes are most active. 2 Dress in long sleeves/pants, loose and light-colored clothing when outdoors. 3 Defend yourself from mosquitoes by using an insect repellent that contains DEET, Picaridin, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus. Follow label instructions 4 Drain standing water in your yard and neighborhood. Also make sure that flower pots, water dishes, bird baths, and wading pools are properly drained so they are not breeding grounds for mosquitoes. HCPHES www.hcphes.org/mc
- 1. Limit your time outside at Dusk and Dawn.
- 2. Dress in long sleeved shirts/pants, light colored and loose clothing.
- 3. Apply insect repellent that contains DEET, Picaridin, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus.
- 4. Drain standing water from pots, containers, water dishes or bird baths.

If you have questions, please contact Roger Warner, Assistant Director, Facilities Management, 713.743.9671, rwwarner@central.uh.edu or the Facilities Service Center, 713.743.4948. The website for the Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services (http://www.hcphes.org/hcmosquitoctrl/factsheets.htm) contains updated maps showing confirmed cases, treatment schedules and strategies for avoiding exposure to West Nile virus, like the "Fight the Bite with 4'D's" campaign, as well as other useful information. To learn more about the programs and services of UH Facilities Management, please visit the website located at http://uh.edu/plantops/departments/fm/ or the Plant Ops Facebook page at www.facebook.com/UniversityOfHoustonPlantOperations.