



Knox County Health Department

140 Dameron Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917

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Contact: Kelsey Wilson
865-215-5116 office
865-257-7460 cell

Mosquitoes in Karns area test positive for West Nile virus

Knoxville, Tenn. – The latest lab report has confirmed the presence of West Nile virus (WNV) in Culex mosquitoes in the Oak Ridge Highway area of Karns. Following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) protocol, the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) will spray for mosquitoes in this area on Tuesday, September 1 between 9:00 p.m. and 2 a.m., weather permitting, to reduce the Culex mosquito population and the risk of WNV spreading to humans. Signs will be posted in the affected neighborhoods to alert residents, who are asked to stay inside during spraying and keep pets inside or in the backyard.

To reduce the risk of contracting WNV and other mosquito-borne diseases, KCHD recommends:

- Applying repellants to skin often when outdoors; repellants can be lotions, liquids or sprays. The CDC recommends the use of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered repellants containing one of the following ingredients: DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, paramenthane-diol, 2-undecanone or IR3535. The duration of protection varies by repellant. Read labels on products to determine when reapplications are necessary for optimal protection.
- Wearing socks and long, loose, and light-colored shirts and pants.
- Treating clothing with permethrin or purchasing pretreated permethrin clothing.
- Disposing of, regularly emptying, or turning over any water-holding containers on your property such as tires, cans, flower pots, children's toys and trash cans to reduce mosquito habitats.
- Using larvicides, such as mosquito torpedoes or mosquito dunks, to prevent mosquito proliferation in large water-holding containers, including bird baths and garden water features. If used properly, larvicides will not harm animals. More tips can be found at knoxcounty.org/health/mosquitoes



Roads to be treated:

Hackworth Road; Boles Road; West Emory Road from Henderson Road to Boles Road; Old Cobbs Ferry Road; Karns Valley Drive; Walkers Gate Subdivision; Brookhaven Subdivision; Bluebell Lane; West Meadow Subdivision; Garrison Road from Byington-Beaver Ridge Road to Byington-Solway Road and Boomerang Lane will be treated Tuesday, September 1, weather permitting. Follow-up spraying is scheduled for September 15. A map of this area is attached below.

About Knox County Health Department

The first health department in Tennessee to achieve national voluntary accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board, the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) is dedicated to ensuring the conditions in which every resident can be healthy. As a chief health strategist for the community and with more than 260 employees, KCHD's broad scope of work includes convening partners to improve community health, identifying community health threats, investigating disease outbreaks, conducting extensive outreach and education, preparing for public health emergencies, providing and connecting the public with medical care, enforcing food safety and air quality laws, and more. For more information, visit www.knoxcounty.org/health.



Karns

Mosquito control spray area



Mosquito trap



Roads to be sprayed



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