



## **Flushing During Mosquito Season FAQ's**

### **1) What does Vector Control test mosquitoes for?**

Vector Control does not test the mosquitoes. Mosquitoes are sent off to Austin for testing. Some of the diseases associated with mosquitoes and tested for by the state include Aedes Aegypti (yellow fever, dengue, chikungunya and zika) and, Culex species (arbovirus, West Nile and St. Louis encephalitis.)

### **2) What number do I call to ask for a certain area to be treated for mosquitoes?**

Customer Call Center (361) 826-CITY (2489)

### **3) How often does the City treat an area for mosquitoes?**

We currently use larvicide to control excess mosquito larvae populations and aerial spraying for full grown mosquitoes when conditions make it effective (low wind speed, low humidity and no rain). We aerial spray locations where mosquitoes test positive for carrying viruses and when more than 20 female mosquitoes are detected in any one trap.

### **4) How do I know the City has already treated a certain area?**

Call Vector Control (361) 826-4622. We keep up to date records of which areas have been treated.

### **5) What diseases are transmitted by mosquitoes?**

Some mosquitoes are vectors for diseases. This means they can transmit diseases from one human or animal to another. Typically, the diseases are caused by viruses or tiny parasites. For example, a mosquito that bites an infected human or animal can pick up a virus along with the blood meal. The mosquito and virus do not harm one another but the virus reproduces inside the mosquito. Later, the mosquito can pass the viruses to other humans when biting them.

## **6) How can I arrange to get a mosquito trap at my residence?**

Currently Vector Control has 28 Gravid traps and 11 New Jersey Light Traps strategically placed throughout the city. Mosquito traps that we use are not designed to trap ALL mosquitos. The traps are part of our surveillance system to let us know when the mosquito population is high and to have samples sent to Austin.

## **7) Is Vector Control going to work with Utilities to treat water after flushing?**

Yes, Vector Control will be supplying Utilities with mosquito dunks (larvicide) once their training has been completed.

## **8) I see a lot of mosquitoes around even after treating the water from flushing. What should I do?**

Call the Customer Call Center (361) 826-CITY (2489). There could be standing water elsewhere that Vector Control may have to treat.

## **9) Why couldn't the City wait to flush hydrants until after mosquito season?**

The city is required by TCEQ to flush hydrants every month. It is also necessary to flush hydrants during disinfectant conversions and during times of low demand.

## **10) How often does the City treat standing water on the street?**

If standing water is caused by flushing, it is treated one day after the flushing occurred. Utilities will treat standing water for mosquitoes once it is determined that the water will not drain naturally within a 24-hour period.

## **11) How is it determined which areas will be flushed?**

Dead-end mains are required to be flushed each month. These dead-end mains are sporadic throughout the City and are not concentrated in any one area. Flushing can also occur towards the end of the distribution system if demand is low or a conversion is taking place. This technique moves water throughout the entire city, rather than just one location.

## **12) What number do I call to report standing water left after flushing?**

Customer Call Center at (361)-826-2489 or Water Quality Hotline at (361) 826-1234

**13) Is the City going to remove standing water on the street?**

If the issue is clogged storm water drains, the city may be able to clean the storm water drain and help the movement of water. If the location of the water is in a low area that does not drain well, the city will treat the standing water for mosquitoes but will not remove the standing water.

**14) Can I ask the City to flush less often in a certain area?**

The City is required by TCEQ to flush dead-end mains monthly. The City cannot reduce the frequency in this case. It may be possible to flush the area with a hose or direct the water in a different direction.

**15) If I don't live in a dead-end main area, can I still participate in the flushing program?**

We will keep your waiver on file for future flushing projects if you do not live in a dead-end main area.

**16) If I want to use the flushed water for my yard, what do I have to do?**

Fill out a waiver at the City of Corpus Christi website and email it to [WaterQuality@cctexas.com](mailto:WaterQuality@cctexas.com)  
You can also call (361) 826-1234 or email us a request and we will mail a waiver to your home.