

## Battle begins against pesky mosquitoes

April 6, 2016

City of Edmonton crews have begun tackling this season's nuisance mosquito population. Starting today, crews began treating standing water within the City's 1,400 square kilometre mosquito control boundary.

"Edmonton is privileged to be one of only a few municipalities in Canada that funds a mosquito control program," said Ron Gabruck, director of Animal Care and Pest Management. "A lot of work and expertise goes into our program each season."

The City of Edmonton focuses on reducing mosquito populations at the larval stage, before they emerge as adults. Mosquito larvae are found in the highest concentrations in standing water, such as roadside ditches and non-permanent pools of water. Crews target these areas by helicopter, by truck and on foot.

"Our most successful method for reducing pest populations is to attack the immature stages of the pest's life cycle when they are most vulnerable," said Mike Jenkins, biological sciences technician with the City of Edmonton. "Experience has shown that controlling larvae is more effective because it reduces the number of mosquitoes that actually hatch into adults."

All products used for the City's mosquito control program are approved by Health Canada and deemed safe for their intended use. City mosquito control staff are certified by Alberta Environment and meet stringent standards for the application of mosquito control products.

For more information on pest management and tips on how you can protect yourself from mosquitoes, visit [edmonton.ca/mosquito](http://edmonton.ca/mosquito).

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### For more information:

[edmonton.ca/mosquito](http://edmonton.ca/mosquito)

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