



**PRESS RELEASE — May 22, 2013**

**Communications: 972-624-3156**

## **Mosquito trapping results**

THE COLONY, Texas — The City of The Colony is once again following a proactive plan of prevention and testing to address mosquito issues throughout the City. The City sets traps at various locations throughout the community on a weekly basis to capture adult mosquitoes and tests for “disease carriers”, specifically for West Nile Virus (WNV) and St. Louis Encephalitis (SLE). Trapping and testing began May 1<sup>st</sup>, and all tests to date have been negative. Traps were set at these locations on the following dates:

- Ridgpointe Park, Lions Club Park, The Colony Aquatic Park, and Paige/Worley – 5/9/13
- Lions Club Park, The Colony Aquatic Park, Baker Street ditch, Augusta/Waters Edge – 5/16/13

If tests had revealed a positive pool, localized treatments would be applied and additional testing done in the following weeks to determine if the treatment was effective. If subsequent tests determine the presence of disease in the same area and/or human cases are confirmed in that area, truck mounted adulticide treatments may take place.

It takes efforts by the entire community to effectively combat West Nile virus. The best prevention for everyone is through education and personal protection, especially for the elderly and those with health issues, by following the 4 D’s listed below:

1. Dress to protect: wear long sleeves and long pants.
2. Dusk and Dawn: avoid being outside at these times if possible.
3. DEET: wear insect repellent with DEET or an effective alternative.
4. Drain standing water: eliminate any water that stands for longer than 5 days or treat water with larvacide according to the label.

Identifying and eliminating stagnant pools of water on private property such as unused swimming pools, hot tubs, bird baths, ponds, low areas, etc., are critical when it comes to preventing breeding

grounds and hatching of adult mosquitoes. Wearing insect repellent with DEET when outdoors will help to minimize exposure to the diseases mosquitoes may carry.

The City is asking all residents to be aware of and remove potential mosquito breeding grounds on their own property, and wear protective clothing and insect repellent when outside for activities. Spring rains are often time the culprit for creating mosquito breeding grounds, and although most mosquitoes are not disease carriers it is necessary to prevent all breeding grounds to effectively combat West Nile virus.

For additional information regarding mosquitoes and the City's mosquito treatment plan, contact Community Services Director Pam Nelson at 972-624-3958, via email at [pnelson@thecolonytx.gov](mailto:pnelson@thecolonytx.gov) or Chemical Applicator Shane Bartel at 469-853-1222, via email at [sbartel@thecolonytx.gov](mailto:sbartel@thecolonytx.gov), or visit [www.thecolonytx.gov/Depts/PARD/mosquitocontrol.html](http://www.thecolonytx.gov/Depts/PARD/mosquitocontrol.html). If you notice standing water on private property, please contact The Colony Community Image Department at 972-624-3160.

###