



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE STATE RECLAMATION & MOSQUITO CONTROL BOARD



Plymouth County
MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

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www.plymouthmosquito.org

Commissioners:

John Kenney, Chairman

Michael F. Valenti, Vice Chairman/Sec.

Cathleen Drinan

Kimberley King

Anthony Texeira - Superintendent

Jo Ann M. Fawcett - Project Coordinator

Stephen A. Gillett - General Foreman

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Selectmen

From: Jo Ann Fawcett, Project Coordinator

Date: January 12, 2015

Please find enclosed a hard copy of the 2014 annual town report for your town. Please contact me if you have any questions.

I have also enclosed a Form SRB-3 which is a Declaration of Support of Mosquito Control Funding for FY16. If you haven't already sent this to us, we would appreciate if you would check the applicable box and a signature and send back to us as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Encs.

TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

JAN 16 '15 AM 11:28

REPORT OF PLYMOUTH COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

The Commissioners of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project are pleased to submit the following report of our activities during 2014.

The Project is a special district created by the State Legislature in 1957, and is now composed of all Plymouth County towns, the City of Brockton, and the town of Cohasset in Norfolk County. The Project is a regional response to a regional problem, and provides a way of organizing specialized equipment, specially trained employees, and mosquito control professionals into a single agency with a broad geographical area of responsibility.

The 2014 season began dry with a low water table, dry conditions increased into the summer season. Efforts were directed at larval mosquitoes starting with the spring brood. Ground larviciding and 10,000 acres of aerial larviciding was accomplished using B.t.i., an environmentally selective bacterial agent. Upon emergence of the spring brood of mosquitoes, ultra-low volume adulticiding began on May 21, 2014 and ended on September 26, 2014. The Project responded to 16,585 requests for spraying and breeding checks from residents covering all of the towns within the district.

In response to the continued threat of mosquito borne diseases in the district, we increased our surveillance trapping, aerial and ground larviciding, and adult spray in areas of concern to protect public health.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis was first isolated from *Coquillettidia perturbans*, a mammal and bird biting species, by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in Bridgewater on July 17, 2014. A total of fifteen positive EEE mosquito isolates were trapped within Plymouth County: (4) Bridgewater, (3) Kingston, (2) Lakeville, (4) Rochester, and (2) Marion.

Based on guidelines defined by the "Vector Control Plan to Prevent EEE" in Massachusetts, nine Plymouth County towns, Kingston, Lakeville, Rochester, West Bridgewater, Middleboro, Rockland, Hingham, Whitman, Hanson, and Bridgewater were elevated from "Low" to "Moderate Level" of EEE Risk". All other towns in Plymouth County Mosquito Project remained in the "Low Level Risk" category. We are pleased to report that in 2014 there were no human or horse EEE cases in Plymouth County.

West Nile Virus was also found within the district. A total of 4 mosquitoes pools tested positive for WNV in the following three towns: (1) Bridgewater, (1) Wareham, (2) Middleboro. All towns within the districts remained at the "Low Level Risk" category for West Nile Virus. We are also pleased to report that in 2014 that there were no human or horse West Nile Virus cases in Plymouth County Mosquito Control district. As part of our West Nile Virus control strategy a total of 68,097 catch basins were treated with larvicide in all of our towns to prevent WNV.

The Health threat of EEE and WNV continues to ensure cooperation between the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project, local Boards of Health and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. In an effort to keep the public informed, EEE and WNV activity updates are regularly posted on Massachusetts Department of Public Health website at www.state.ma.us/dph/wnv/wnv1.htm.

The figures specific to the town of Mattapoisett are given below. While mosquitoes do not respect town lines the information given below does provide a tally of the activities which have had the greatest impact on the health and comfort of Mattapoisett residents.

Insecticide Application. 1,082 acres were treated using truck mounted sprayers for control of adult mosquitoes. More than one application was made to the same site if mosquitoes reinvaded the area. The first treatments were made in May and the last in September.

During the summer 1,060 catch basins were treated to prevent the emergence of *Culex pipiens*, a known mosquito vector in West Nile Virus transmission.

Our greatest effort has been targeted at mosquitoes in the larval stage, which can be found in woodland pools, swamps, marshes and other standing water areas. Inspectors continually gather data on these sites and treat with highly specific larvicides when immature mosquitoes are present.

Water Management. During 2014 crews removed blockages, brush and other obstructions from 350 linear feet of ditches and streams to prevent overflows or stagnation that can result in mosquito breeding. This work, together with machine reclamation, is most often carried out in the fall and winter.

Finally, we have been tracking response time, which is the time between notice of a mosquito problem and response by one of our inspectors. The complaint response time in the Town of Mattapoissett was less than three days with more than 435 complaints answered.

Mosquito Survey. Our surveillance showed that the dominant mosquitoes throughout the district were generally *Culiseta melanura* and *Coquillettidia perturbans*. In the Town of Mattapoissett the three most common mosquitoes were *Aedes vexans*, *Ochlerotatus cantator* and *Culiseta melanura*.

We encourage citizens or municipal officials to visit our website at www.plymouthmosquito.org or call our office for information about mosquitoes, mosquito-borne diseases, control practices, or any other matters of concern.

Anthony Texeira
Superintendent

Commissioners:
John Kenney, Chairman
Michael F. Valenti, Vice-Chairman/Secretary
Kimberley King
Cathleen Drinan

State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board
Budget Notification and Compliance Certification Policy

DECLARATION OF SUPPORT OR NO SUPPORT OF MOSQUITO CONTROL FUNDING FOR FY 2016

Declaration

I, _____ the chief executive officer of Town/City of _____
(Print Name/ and Sign Name) (Please Print)

hereby designate _____ to sign this declaration.
(Print Name)

(Please check applicable box below)

- ☐ Support
☐ Do Not Support

the preliminary mosquito control budget proposed and this municipality's estimated proportionate share thereof, expressed both as a percentage and as a dollar amount as provided to this municipality in compliance with the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board Budget Notification and Compliance Certification Policy.

Name: _____
(Please Print)

Signature: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

Both a copy and the original declaration should be submitted to the district **who will forward all member communities' declarations to the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board no later than April 15th**