



## ORANGE COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT

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### **Mosquito abatement aerial spray treatments to be provided by State**

News Release

Submitted by Patrick D. Beebe, Director  
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Following requests for assistance, the Texas Department of State Health Services has agreed to provide aerial spray treatments to Orange County and others areas along the Texas Gulf Coast in an effort to help combat the high levels of mosquito activity and the threat to public health following Hurricane Harvey.

The State will be working with the DOD, Clarke Mosquito Control and Dynamic Aviation to provide aerial spray treatments to Orange, Jefferson and Chambers counties in addition to others areas along the Texas Gulf Coast.

Spray treatments are tentatively scheduled to begin Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> in Orange, Jefferson and Chambers County's. A military C-130 will be used to treat these areas. Aerial spray treatments will be carried-out beginning at dusk and into the evening hours. Insecticide to be used does not pose a threat to public health or animals. Beekeepers are being notified and need to be aware of the scheduled treatments so that they have the opportunity to either move their hives or cover them prior to treatment, if they choose to do so.

The mosquitoes which are causing high levels of nuisance to area recovery workers, residents and animals fall within the flood water group and do not transmit disease. However, because mosquito densities are so high, we cannot completely rule out the presence of some mosquito species, within those numbers, having the ability to transmit disease.

With mosquito populations high in the county, residents need to take personal protective measures when outdoors to protect themselves from mosquito bites. One of the first lines of defense against mosquito bites and exposure to mosquito-borne diseases is the use of EPA approved repellants containing products like DEET or picaridin when mosquito activity is present.

Other personal protective measures to reduce exposure to mosquitoes are moving indoors at dusk and dawn when many mosquito species are most active, wearing light colored loose fitting clothing as a physical barrier from the mosquito and draining standing water from property.