



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

INFORMATION RELEASE

April 2, 2019

Nuisance Mosquito Control Program in the South Okanagan and Similkameen Begins

RDOS Helps Reduce the Mosquito Population

Since 1974, the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) Nuisance Mosquito Control Program begins in spring and continues into late August. The service is driven by resident request and operates on private lands only. Owners of regular ongoing sites are contacted by mail prior to program start to insure that treatment is allowed to take place if the right conditions are present.

The RDOS Mosquito Control Crew samples standing water at identified sites throughout the region for the presence of mosquito larvae. If the site requires treatment, a naturally occurring granular bacterial larvicide is applied to the water. This bacteria kills mosquito and biting black fly at their larval stage but does not kill adult mosquitoes. The product does not harm any other insects, amphibians, reptiles, fish, birds or mammals; it targets only those two species. When water bodies get too large to treat manually, a helicopter is deployed to insure adequate coverage.

Program coverage:

Electoral Areas: "A", "B", "C", "D", "F", "E", "G", "H" and "I" as well as the City of Penticton, District of Summerland, and Towns of Oliver and Osoyoos

Protect Yourself

Home: Be sure to mend screens, clean and unclog eaves-troughs and gutters and remove water from any depressions on your roof. Refresh outdoor pet dishes and bird-baths daily. Remove any standing water from items such as pails, boats, hot-tub and pool covers, tires, plant pots, small troughs, rain barrels, and tarps.

Property: Look around for anything that can hold water (for 72 hours or more) as it will provide an excellent habitat for developing mosquitoes. Yard items such as storm water catch basins, ephemeral ponds and wading pools are all places that can harbour breeding mosquitos.

For information on nuisance mosquitos, annual reports and more visit:

<http://www.rdos.bc.ca/departments/public-works/pest-control/>



If you reside in the RDOS Electoral Areas or municipalities participating in the program, have areas of standing water bodies too large to drain on your own, or need more information, call the RDOS Mosquito Control Program Hotline at (250) 490-4142 or toll free 1-877-610-3737

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