

Harris County

HCPHES

Public Health & Environmental Services

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HCPHES Begins Spraying Operation for Mosquitoes

In the aftermath of Hurricane Ike Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services (HCPHES) will conduct **the first round of ground-based spray operations (spray truck) on Sunday evening, September 21, 2008 from approximately 8:30pm until 4:00am in the western portion of the 610 Loop (see attached map)**. The insecticide, Scourge (EPA-approved), is routinely used to combat mosquito-borne disease and will be used during the spray operations in Harris County. As HCPHES collects additional surveillance data, the ground-based spray operation may expand to other portions of the county.

While Scourge is considered to be safe for the environment, some people may be sensitive to direct contact with the chemical. Therefore, during routine operations HCPHES mosquito control trucks will shut off the sprayer when they see someone potentially in line of a direct spray. Since many Harris County neighborhoods continue to be without power we anticipate that many more people will be outside than usual during spray operations. So, if you are outdoors and you see a mosquito truck spraying in your area, HCPHES asks that you go indoors while the truck is spraying on your block so we can cover your neighborhood adequately.