

RESOLUTION NO. 16-15

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BERTHOUD, COLORADO  
ESTABLISHING A POLICY FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL SPRAYING**

**WHEREAS** the Town of Berthoud is surrounded by agricultural lands and wetland areas which are prone to develop substantial mosquito populations in certain years and seasons; and

**WHEREAS** vector borne diseases from mosquitoes are a significant public health concern, as is environmental and ecological damage from excessive or unnecessary pesticide application; and

**WHEREAS** Larimer County regularly conduct evaluations of the intensity and types of mosquito infestations, including a determination of populations likely to carry West Nile virus and other diseases, and provides recommendations as to whether active spraying is warranted; and

**WHEREAS**, Town staff has requested a fixed policy to determine when to rely on larval and bacterial control programs regularly employed by the Town and when to engage a contractor for active spraying

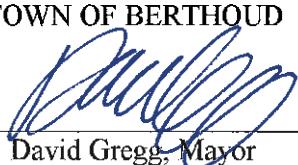
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF BERTHOUD, COLORADO AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Town staff shall implement active mosquito control measures (spraying) only when trap counts from Larimer County indicate a sufficient population of mosquitoes of a type known to regularly act as vectors for serious disease;
2. The attached Policy Statement is hereby adopted as the official policy of the Town for determining when adult mosquito control shall be implemented as a matter of public health and safety.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015.

TOWN OF BERTHOUD

BY:

  
David Gregg, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Mary K. Cowdin, Town Clerk

## **MOSQUITO CONTROL POLICY STATEMENT**

1. At any time that any mosquito-borne disease becomes a real or imminent public health threat, adult mosquito control by spraying for adult insects will become a priority issue for the Town of Berthoud. A real or imminent public health risk will be determined by the Director of Public Health for Larimer County and indicated by the Vector Index (VI) which is calculated for the county and published on a weekly basis.
2. The Vector Index (VI) measures the level of West Nile Virus infected mosquitoes in an area, and is the best available predictor of human risk from that disease. The VI is a number calculated by combining measures of the abundance of Culex mosquitoes (the species that carries WNV) and the rate of infection in those mosquitoes. Published investigations of large West Nile outbreaks have shown that once a vector index is over 0.5, the risk of humans getting infected with West Nile virus increases.
3. Upon notice of a Vector Index of .5 or higher, or on recommendation from Colorado Mosquito Control, Larimer County Public Health, or the CDC, adult control will be implemented town-wide and spray exclusion zones will not be recognized. Such control measures shall occur at the direction of the Town staff without further Board action. Notice to residents of the intended application date will be made via the Town website, Colorado Mosquito Control website, press release, and social media updates. The Town of Berthoud will give such notice of a minimum of 48 hours before commencing spray operations. The Town of Berthoud will exercise all means possible to reduce the adult mosquito population within the area where disease transmission to humans is a concern.
4. In order to effectively combat West Nile virus throughout the season, the Town has contracted to conduct a mosquito surveillance program and sets two traps a week within the Town of Berthoud to monitor how the mosquito population is changing over time. The Town of Berthoud is also conducting a comprehensive larvae control program to kill mosquito larvae before they emerge from breeding areas. The contract is to apply a biological larvicide to breeding sites within of the city limits. The larvicide is a natural non-toxic biological product that affects only mosquitoes and is not harmful to fish and animals.
5. The Town shall implement the attached Communications Plan in order to minimize situations requiring active adult mosquito control

# West Nile Virus Communication Plan 2015 – 2016

**Purpose:** Berthoud, like many other Northern Colorado communities, monitors mosquito populations during the spring and summer. Mosquito counts rise and fall with seasonal changes, weather changes and natural conditions beyond Town control. The threat of contracting West Nile virus through mosquito bites is very real; however there are several things individuals, businesses, and communities can do to reduce the risk of contracting West Nile virus and lower mosquito populations. Creating and implementing both an emergency spraying policy and communication plan for prevention and potential spraying are important documents for communities to have.

## West Nile Virus Prevention Communications Plan

### Messages:

- Drain standing water in your yard every week
  - o Mosquitoes breed in standing water, empty birdbaths, pails, and other containers that collect water regularly
- Keep covered
  - o Wear long pants, long sleeves, and socks to protect your skin from bites
- Apply DEET to your skin while outside
  - o Check the bug repellent label to confirm that it protects against West Nile virus
- Be careful at dawn and dusk
  - o Mosquitoes are more active in the early morning and evening. If you go outside then, protect yourself
- Protect yourself at home and away
  - o Mosquitoes aren't just in Berthoud. If you are traveling in any other Northern Colorado community, you can still get bitten.
  - o Cover up, apply DEET and be careful early and late in the day where ever your summer plans take you
- Mow grass near your home
- For more self care tips, visit <http://www.larimer.org/health/cd/selfcare.htm>.
- For information about West Nile virus, including its risks and symptoms, visit <http://www.larimer.org/health/cd/westnile-about.cfm>.

### Tools:

- Website, including the County's map that tracks data in Google. They are updated every Thursday.
- Social media
- Posters (distributed to area businesses, in Town facilities)
- In Focus newsletter articles
- Business cards (distributed to area businesses, in Town facilities)

### Timeline:

#### April – October:

#### Website:

- feature self care information
- links to documents (any approved plans)

- images (crews collecting mosquito traps, people playing in parks, neighborhoods)
- County resources (links to self care, policies, other timely updates)

Social media:

- Prevention tips
- Link to WNV page/information

Print materials:

- Create and distribute posters and informational business cards; restock as necessary and at the beginning of each season

Events:

- Larimer County Public Health staff is available to host information tables at any Town event. Schedule with Katie O'Donnell ahead of time.

**June - September:** Once traps are deployed, share any count information to the community –

- In Focus monthly newsletter
- Berthoud.org
- Twitter and Facebook