



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND MENTAL HYGIENE**  
Ashwin Vasani, MD, PhD  
*Commissioner*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Friday, June 2, 2023**

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO CONDUCT FIRST AERIAL LARVICIDING OF THE  
MOSQUITO SEASON TO MARSHES AND OTHER NONRESIDENTIAL AREAS OF  
THE BRONX, BROOKLYN, QUEENS AND STATEN ISLAND**

*Aerial larviciding reduces the number of mosquitoes and minimizes the risk of mosquito-borne disease*

*The Health Department applies EPA-approved pesticide to mosquito breeding grounds when appropriate throughout the season*

**June 2, 2023** – To reduce mosquito activity and the risk of West Nile virus, the Health Department will conduct its first aerial larviciding treatment of the season to marshes and wetland areas of the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island from **Thursday, June 8 to Friday, June 9 and Monday, June 12, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.**, weather permitting. The helicopter will treat only nonresidential areas. While two days are allotted for the aerial larviciding, the application may be completed in less time. In case of bad weather, application will be delayed until **Tuesday, June 13 to Thursday, June 15, 2023** during the same hours.

“For many of us, the warm weather is the perfect time to be outdoors, connecting with nature and friends,” said **Health Commissioner Dr. Ashwin Vasani**. “To make your time outside safer, and more enjoyable, the Health Department will carry out mosquito control events throughout the season to protect from mosquito-borne illnesses.”

The Health Department monitors mosquitoes that carry the West Nile virus. To date, no human cases of West Nile virus have been reported this season. During warm weather, mosquitoes can breed in any still water that has been standing for more than five days. In the targeted areas, existing hot and wet weather conditions can cause a rise in mosquito populations. Due to size and limited accessibility, these areas will be treated using a low-flying helicopter.

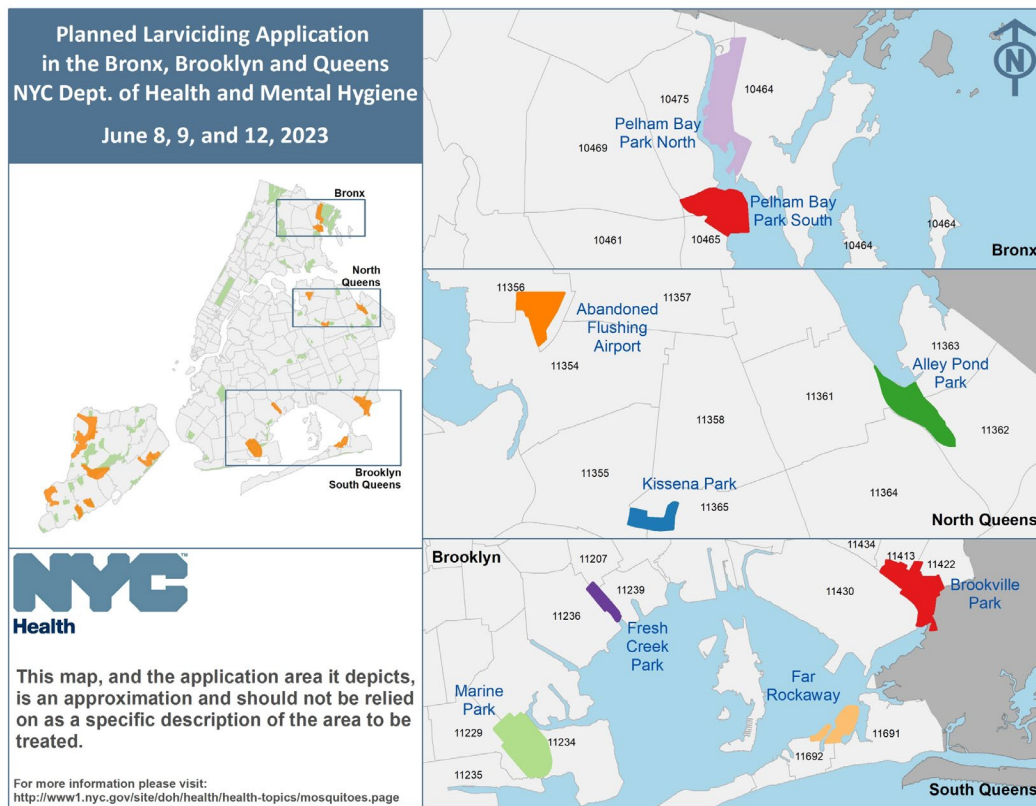
For the aerial application in marshes and wetland areas of the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island, the Health Department will use larvicides to kill young mosquitoes before they grow into adults. VectoBac® GS and VectoPrime® FG contain naturally occurring bacteria and will be used for this application. These products have been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and will be used on mosquito breeding grounds throughout the mosquito season.

The most effective way to control mosquitoes is to eliminate any standing water. New Yorkers are encouraged to mosquito-proof their homes and take precautions when spending time outdoors.

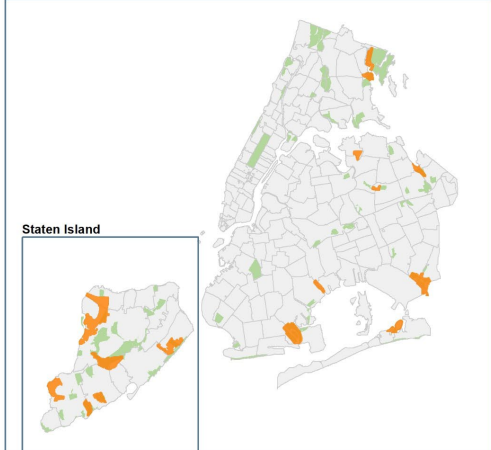
## Reducing exposure to mosquitoes

- Use an approved insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus (not for children under three), or products that contain the active ingredient IR3535.
- Make sure windows have screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or holes.
- Eliminate any standing water from your property and dispose of containers that can collect water. Maintaining standing water is a violation of the New York City Health Code.
- Make sure roof gutters are clean and draining properly.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas and hot tubs. Keep them empty or covered if not in use. Drain water that collects in pool covers.
- Wear lightweight and light-colored long pants and shirts when in marshy areas as possible.

Report standing water by **calling 311** or visiting [nyc.gov/health/wnv](http://nyc.gov/health/wnv). For more information about West Nile virus, **call 311** or visit [nyc.gov](http://nyc.gov).

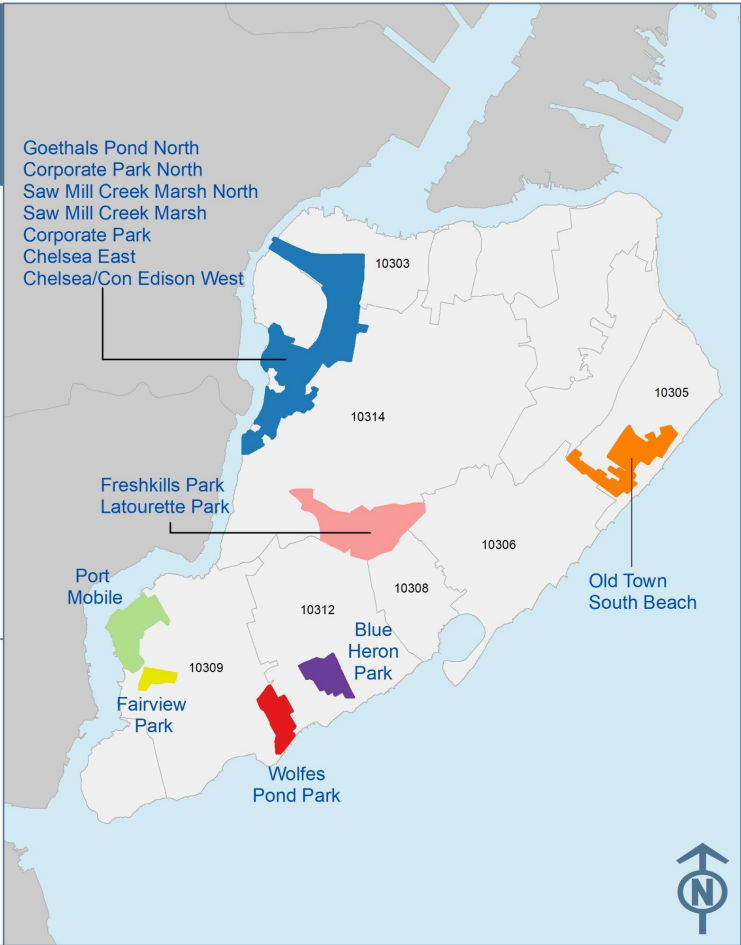


**Planned Larviciding Application  
in Staten Island  
NYC Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene  
June 8, 9, and 12, 2023**



This map, and the application area it depicts, is an approximation and should not be relied on as a specific description of the area to be treated.

For more information please visit:  
<http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/mosquitoes.page>



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#M01-23

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