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KDA Teams Up With County Fiscal Courts to Battle Mosquitos During Summer Months
Kentuckians can adopt simple techniques to fight mosquitos in their backyards

FRANKFORT (April 22, 2019) — Spring is in the air, and summer is right around the corner. Warmer weather brings with it a new season of mosquito populations. The Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) has entered into legal agreements with three county fiscal courts to loan equipment to each to reduce mosquito populations during the summer months.

The fiscal courts of Calloway, Marshall, and Trigg counties will implement spray programs with technical assistance and mosquito foggers on loan from KDA. These counties see some of the highest mosquito activity in the state.

Residents in Calloway, Marshall, and Trigg counties may call the local numbers below to report areas in which mosquitos are a current public nuisance.

- Calloway County Road Department: (270) 753-4846
- Marshall County Health Department: (270) 252-2719
- Trigg County Judge Executive Office: (270) 522-8459

For spraying outside of these counties, KDA's Public Pest Division offers spraying in areas where mosquitos are a public nuisance. The Division operates ultra-low-volume (ULV) fogging machines, which allow for the treatment of populated areas.

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture sprays for mosquitos at the request of local officials. Spraying priority is placed on mosquito control in parks, summer camps and other outdoor areas where many members of the public congregate. Priority is also placed on spraying before outdoor fairs and festivals.

KDA does not provide mosquito control for all Kentucky residents. For example, Jefferson, Fayette, and Union counties have separate spraying programs. Please check with your local health department for any local programs that may exist in your area.

There are simple things Kentuckians can do to help control mosquito populations. The first step is to look for possible breeding sites on your property and in your community:

- Mosquitos must have water to develop — some eggs can develop into adult mosquitos in just a few days. Dispose of old tires, buckets, drums, and other containers that might hold water.
- Keep rainwater from collecting in trash containers.
- Don't allow water to accumulate at the base of flower pots or pet dishes for more than a few days. Clean pet dishes regularly.
- Clean debris from rain gutters and remove any standing water on patios or flat roofs.
- Check around air conditioner units and repair leaks or remove puddles that remain for several days.

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- Change water in bird baths and wading pools at least once a week. Store these items when not in use.
- Remove tall weeds and grass from your yard to eliminate daytime resting places for mosquitos.
- Advise your local officials of potential problem areas.
- Mosquito larval prevention during late winter months often can do more good at eradicating mosquitos than summer spraying programs. Encourage and invest in early larvicide programs.