



**CANYON COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT**  
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**Members: IMVCA, ECA of Idaho,  
NWMVCA, AMCA, NPMA**

April 12, 2019

**TO: Canyon County Tax Payer**

**CCMAD change in Mosquito Operational Services:**

In the past it has been the operational practice of the Canyon County Mosquito Abatement District to make residual insecticide treatments to individual yards for mosquito management. We have changed our MMP (Mosquito Management Plan) to eliminate this practice going forward. We will still be treating for adult mosquitoes with our non-residual U.L.V. (night-time fogging) treatments.

Reasons for this change in policy:

- The product that we have been using has the active ingredient Bifenthrin®. Bifenthrin is an insecticide that is heavily used in the landscaping and pest control industry. Because of this, we are concerned of over use of the product and the serious risk of it becoming pest resistant. CCMAD also has no record of applications being made by landscape, lawn care or pest control companies that may have been contracted by homeowners. This can also cause over applications and may result in damage to landscape plants, ground water contamination and more importantly an unnecessary over exposure to pesticides to homeowners, children and pets. Besides, many lawn care/pest control companies have now instituted add on services of mosquito treatments on their customer's properties. As a government agency, we do not choose to impede on private enterprise.
- Effective mosquito abatement is a combination of large area mosquito larvicide treatments and large area mosquito Ultra Low Volume (U.L.V.) night time "fogging". Tying in these large area services with a sound surveillance and mosquito disease monitoring program is what government ran mosquito abatement programs are designed to accomplish in the most cost-efficient way with taxpayer funds.

For the above reasons and the potential for liability issues, the Canyon County Mosquito Abatement District is going to only allow non-residual type insecticide treatments to be completed using Ultra Low Volume (U.L.V.) “fogging” type formulations.

Operations will be performed in the evening and/or early morning hours. Non-residual products do not have the label restriction of long-lasting residual mosquito abatement insecticides so there is no danger in over applications. If a request is made for the district to visit your property to investigate a mosquito issue, thorough inspections will be conducted by an inspection team and proper larvae control treatments will be conducted if necessary, using approved mosquito larvae control products that are nontoxic to people pets, or livestock.

The District is committed to overall pesticide reduction for mosquito abatement and you can help us accomplish this by instituting and following these recommendations:

- Prevent standing water by not overwatering lawns or common areas: Turf studies have shown that most grasses only need to be watered once every 3-4 days to stay healthy and green. Water infrequently and deeply. Too frequent irrigation cycles can lead to poor grass root structure and lead to insect and/or disease issues.
- Inspect sprinkler heads and control boxes frequently for damage and leaks. Just an inch of water standing for three days in high heat can produce mosquitoes.
- In many cases mosquito issues can be corrected with proper landscape management.
- In some cases, residential private property may be set up as an adult mosquito surveillance and disease testing site. If this does occur, the district will ask for cooperation in not tampering with the trap. A placed mosquito trap can provide us with valuable information on mosquito species populations and potential disease activity.

It is our goal to manage mosquito population in an environmentally sound and safe manner. Thank you for your cooperation in this change in our mosquito operational policy.

Sincerely,

Ed Burnett- District Director

*If there are any questions about this change in policy, contact our office at 208 461-8633.*