TOWN OF SAUGUS

BOARD OF HEALTH
298 CENTRAL STREET
SAUGUS, MASSACHUSETTS 01906

Board of Health
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Town Wide Mosquito Spraying in Saugus

DATE:	**9/7/2012**	**CONTACT:**	**Frank P. Giacalone**
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The Town of Saugus Board of Health in conjunction with the Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito Control will be conducting a scheduled town wide spraying of the Town of Saugus on Monday, September 10, 2012 after 8pm weather permitting.

WNV is most commonly transmitted to humans by the bite of a mosquito infected with the virus. While WNV can infect people of all ages, people over the age of 50 are at higher risk for severe infection.

By taking a few, common-sense precautions, people can help to protect themselves and their loved ones:

Avoid Mosquito Bites

- **Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours -** The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning. Otherwise, take extra care to use repellent and protective clothing.
- **Clothing Can Help** reduce mosquito bites. Although it may be difficult to do when it's hot, wearing long-sleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.
- **Apply Insect Repellent** when you go outdoors. Use a repellent with **DEET** (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), **permethrin, picaridin** (KBR 3023), **IR3535** or **oil of lemon eucalyptus** [p-methane 3, 8-diol (PMD)] according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under three years of age. Permethrin products are intended for use on items such as clothing, shoes, bed nets and camping gear and should not be applied to skin.

Mosquito-Proof Your Home

- **Drain Standing Water -** Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by either draining or getting rid of items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty any unused flowerpots and wading pools, and change water in birdbaths frequently.
- **Install or Repair Screens -** Some mosquitoes like to come indoors. Keep them outside by having tightly-fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

While the Board of Health continues to work closely with the MDPH and other agencies, locally we are Issuing this press release and recommending that the above mentioned precautions be taken to help avoid mosquito bites. Guidance material will also be available at the town hall and on our website at www.Saugus-ma.gov.

Information about WNV and reports of WNV activity in Massachusetts during 2012 can be found on the MDPH website at http://www.mass.gov/dph/wnv. Recorded information about WNV is also available by calling the MDPH Public Health Information Line at 1-866-MASS-WNV (1-866-627-7968).