



Communication & Public Involvement

215 N. Mason Street
PO Box 580
Fort Collins, CO 80522

970.221.6882
970.221.6586 - fax
fcgov.com

West Nile Virus Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2014

Members in attendance

- Lars Eisen
- Dana Kunze
- Boris Kondratieff
- Adrienne LeBailly
- Greg McMaster
- Chet Moore
- Meghan Williams
- Liz Pruessner
- Roger Nasci

Staff in attendance

- Mike Calhoon
- Tess Heffernan
- Matt Parker
- Dan Weinheimer
- Pamela Weir
- Denise White

Colorado Mosquito Control Rep

- Jessica Schurich

Guests

- Cheryl Distaso
- Rich Fisher
- Joe Halseth
- Dick Thomas

Introductions

Committee Operating Agreements

- Approved 2.12.14 meeting minutes
- Future Meetings: March 5th at Parks Building, 4-6 PM; March 18th City Council work session; April 2nd at Parks Building, 4-6 PM; April 5th, 2-6 PM (Tentative)

City Council Direction

- Diverse voices – completed
- Program Manual- ongoing
- Review guidelines - ongoing

TAC Work Items

- Continued examination of issues relating to adulticiding

Adulticiding discussion

- Key issues discussed: zones, program guidelines AND/OR issue, Opt-Out list, and bee keeping
- Chet has been in contact with a statistician at CSU. Meghan and Greg will join Chet to meet with the statistician and discuss the confidence associated with zones of different sizes.
- There was disagreement among TAC members about the structure of the level three and level four response guidelines, including the effectiveness of including human cases of WNV as a necessary trigger for spraying. In addition to the AND/OR question, the TAC discussed an idea of having a weighted scoring system for a set of multiple triggers.
- Members generally agreed to present City Council with a menu of guideline options and the possible ramifications of each.
- TAC members did not reach consensus regarding the creation of an opt-out option. The following 'assets' and 'barriers' to an opt-out list were discussed:
 - Assets: improve community education about WNV, encourage healthier habits, decrease the potential need for spraying, backyard inspections could identify mosquito breeding sites, increased backyard source reduction efforts could reduce adult mosquito population, and validation of the values property owners who do not support spraying
 - Barriers: cost to implement, opt-out list does not guarantee neighbors will not apply pesticides that drift into others' properties, not spraying an area will not reduce the vector index, and it is very difficult to measure the impact of an opt-out program
- TAC members had varying levels of concern regarding the impact of adulticide on honeybees.
 - Concern: It is difficult for residents to properly close a beehive before spraying starts. Summer evenings are too warm for bees to thrive in a closed hive.
 - The history of the Fort Collins program suggests that it is uncommon for a beehive to be killed when adulticide is applied properly by the City.
- TAC members requested information regarding the best practices for protecting beehives from spraying.

Next meeting- March 5th

- Develop the effectiveness and feasibility matrix of possible program improvements

- Develop TAC recommendation for City Council Work Session