



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE**  
 Alister F. Martin, MD, MPP  
 Commissioner

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
 June 5, 2026

**NYC HEALTH DEPARTMENT TAKES FLIGHT AGAINST MOSQUITOES WITH FIRST AERIAL LARVICIDING OPERATION OF THE SEASON**

*Aerial Larviciding Treatment to be Conducted by Helicopter in Marshes and Wetlands June 8-10 to Reduce Mosquito Activity and Lower the Risk of West Nile Virus*

*Treatment Uses EPA-Approved Products Targeting Mosquito Larvae with Minimal Impact on People, Pets, and Wildlife*

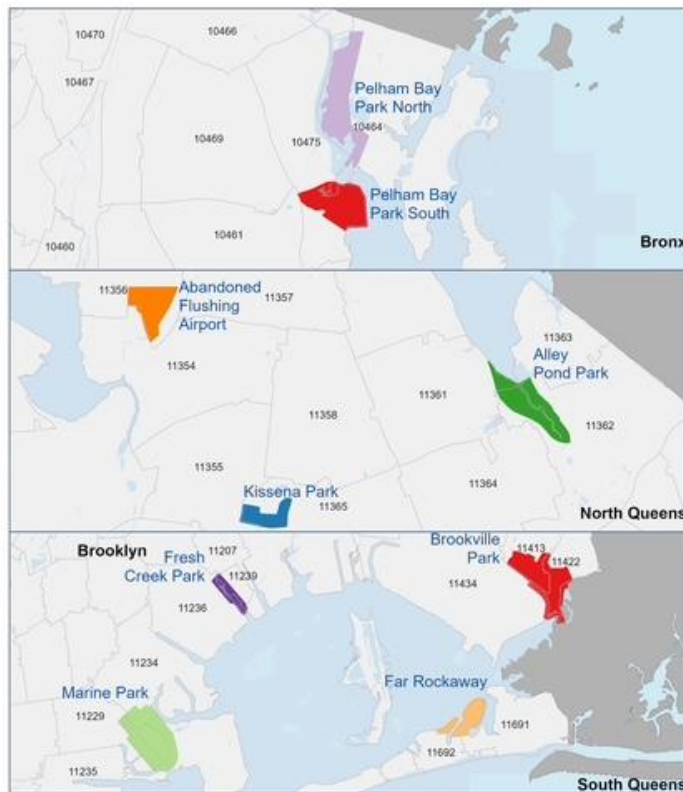
*New Yorkers Encouraged to Eliminate Standing Water, Mosquito-Proof Their Homes, and Take Precautions When Spending Time Outdoors to Reduce Mosquito Exposure*

**NYC Health**  
**Planned Larviciding Application**  
**Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens**  
**June 8, 9 and 10, 2026**  
 NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene



For more information please visit:  
<http://www.nyc.gov/health/wmv>

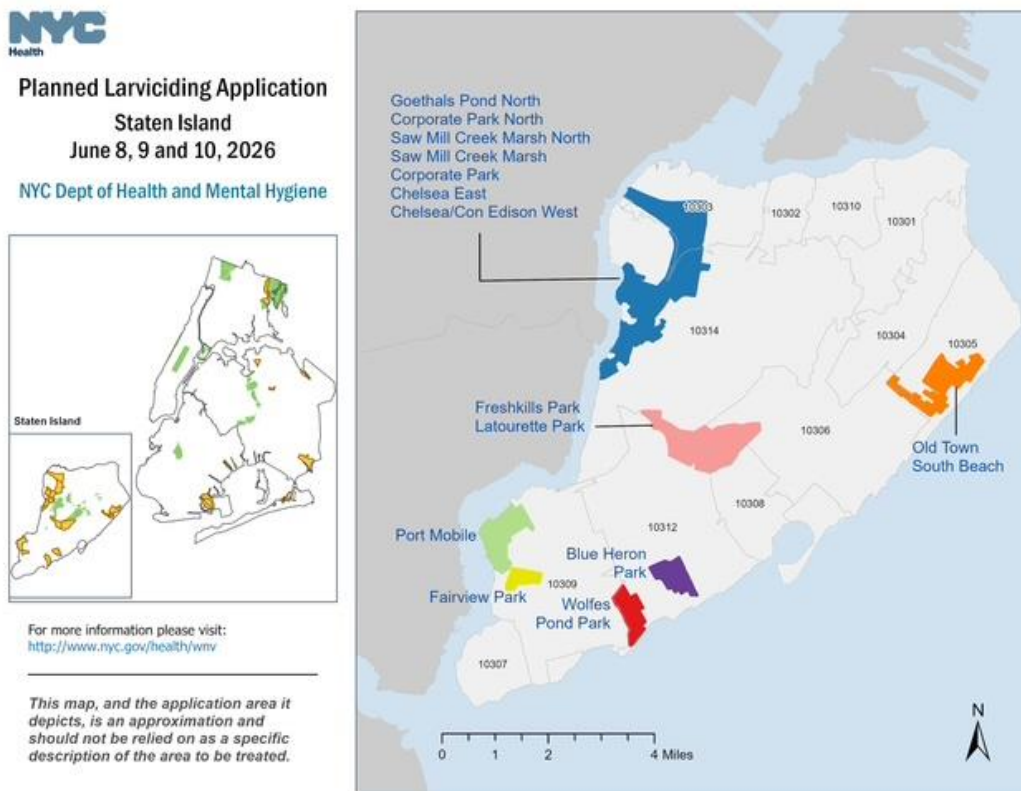
*This map, and the application area it depicts, is an approximation and should not be relied on as a specific description of the area to be treated.*



**NEW YORK, NY** — To reduce mosquito activity and the risk of West Nile virus, the NYC Health Department will conduct aerial larviciding treatment for the first time this summer

from June 8-10, treating nonresidential marshes and wetland areas of the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island between the hours of 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. Due to their size, dense vegetation, and limited accessibility, these areas will be treated using a low-flying helicopter. In the event of inclement weather, treatment will be delayed until June 11-12 and June 15, during the same hours.

“Preventing mosquito-borne disease starts long before mosquitoes become a nuisance,” said **NYC Health Commissioner, Dr. Alister Martin**. “The NYC Health Department's mosquito surveillance and control program helps protect New Yorkers by reducing mosquito populations before they have an opportunity to spread disease. As we enter the summer season, we encourage all New Yorkers to eliminate standing water around their homes and take simple precautions to reduce mosquito exposure.”



The NYC Health Department conducts ongoing mosquito surveillance throughout the five boroughs and monitors mosquitoes for West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne diseases. Periods of warm weather, rainfall, and high tides can create ideal breeding conditions for mosquitoes in marshes and wetlands, which are active in New York City from approximately April through October each year. To date, no human cases of West Nile virus have been reported in New York City this year. The targeted treatment areas are expected to experience conditions favorable for mosquito breeding, prompting the agency to conduct its first treatment of the year.

The NYC Health Department will apply larvicides that target mosquito larvae before they mature into biting adult mosquitoes. The products used for this treatment, VectoBac® GS and VectoPrime® FG, contain naturally occurring bacteria that specifically target mosquito larvae. Both products are approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and are used as part of the NYC Health Department's integrated mosquito management program. The larvicides used in this treatment target mosquito larvae and have minimal impact on people, pets, fish, birds, and other wildlife when applied according to label directions.

New Yorkers are encouraged to mosquito-proof their homes and take precautions when spending time outdoors. The most effective way to control mosquitoes is to eliminate standing water where they breed. Other recommendations to reduce exposure to mosquitoes include:

- Use an EPA-registered insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus (not recommended for children younger than three years old).
- Make sure windows have properly fitted screens and repair any tears or holes.
- Eliminate standing water on your property and dispose of containers that collect water.
- Keep roof gutters clean and draining properly.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas, and hot tubs. Keep them covered when not in use.
- Drain water that collects on pool covers.
- When possible, wear long sleeves and long pants when outdoors in areas with high mosquito activity.
- Report standing water by calling 311 or visiting [NYC.gov/health](http://NYC.gov/health).

For more information about West Nile virus and mosquito prevention, visit [NYC.gov/health](http://NYC.gov/health) or call 311.

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