



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 23, 2026

**TO PROTECT NEW YORKERS FROM WEST NILE VIRUS, NYC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
WILL CONDUCT MOSQUITO ABATEMENT IN QUEENS**

Trucks Will Spray Parts of Queens the Nights of July 27 and 29, Weather Permitting

*EPA-Approved Treatment Targets Adult Mosquitoes While Minimizing Risk to People, Pets,
and Wildlife*

*Health Department Urges All New Yorkers to Prevent Mosquito Bites as West Nile Virus
Activity Increases Across the City*

NEW YORK, NY — To reduce the risk of mosquito bites and West Nile virus, NYC Health Department trucks will spray ground-based pesticide on Monday, July 27, and Wednesday, July 29, to parts of Queens between 8:30 p.m. and 6 a.m. the following morning. In the event of inclement weather, treatment will be delayed until Tuesday, July 28, and Thursday, July 30, respectively, during the same hours.

The Health Department conducts comprehensive mosquito surveillance throughout the five boroughs by monitoring mosquito populations and routinely testing mosquito pools for West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne pathogens. Surveillance data guide mosquito control decisions and help identify areas where the risk of virus transmission is elevated. Recent warm weather, intermittent rainfall, and seasonal high tides have created favorable conditions for mosquito breeding and virus amplification.

The Health Department will spray very low concentrations of Duet. The risks of pesticides applied by the Health Department for mosquito control are low for people and pets. Individuals who are particularly sensitive to spray ingredients may experience temporary eye or throat irritation or a mild rash. People with respiratory conditions may also wish to take simple precautions to minimize exposure during the application period.

To stay safe during spraying:

- Stay indoors, whenever possible.

- Air conditioners can remain on. While not necessary, you may wish to close air conditioner vents or choose the recirculate function.

After spraying:

- Wash skin and clothing exposed to pesticides with soap and water.
- Always wash fruits and vegetables with water.

Earlier this month, the Health Department issued an advisory to healthcare providers in New York City to consider and test for West Nile virus through October. No human cases of West Nile virus have been reported in New York City this year. However, the Health Department has detected an increase in West Nile virus-positive mosquito pools citywide compared with the same period last year, reinforcing the importance of taking precautions to avoid mosquito bites.

Prevent Mosquito Bites

New Yorkers are encouraged to mosquito-proof their homes and take precautions when spending time outdoors. 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 3 years).
- 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**.

For more information about West Nile virus and mosquito prevention, visit the Health Department's [Mosquito Control](#) page or call **311**.

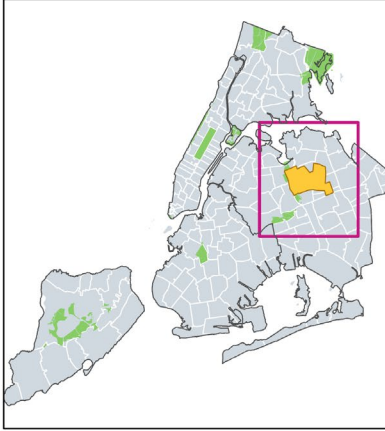


Planned Spray Areas

Queens

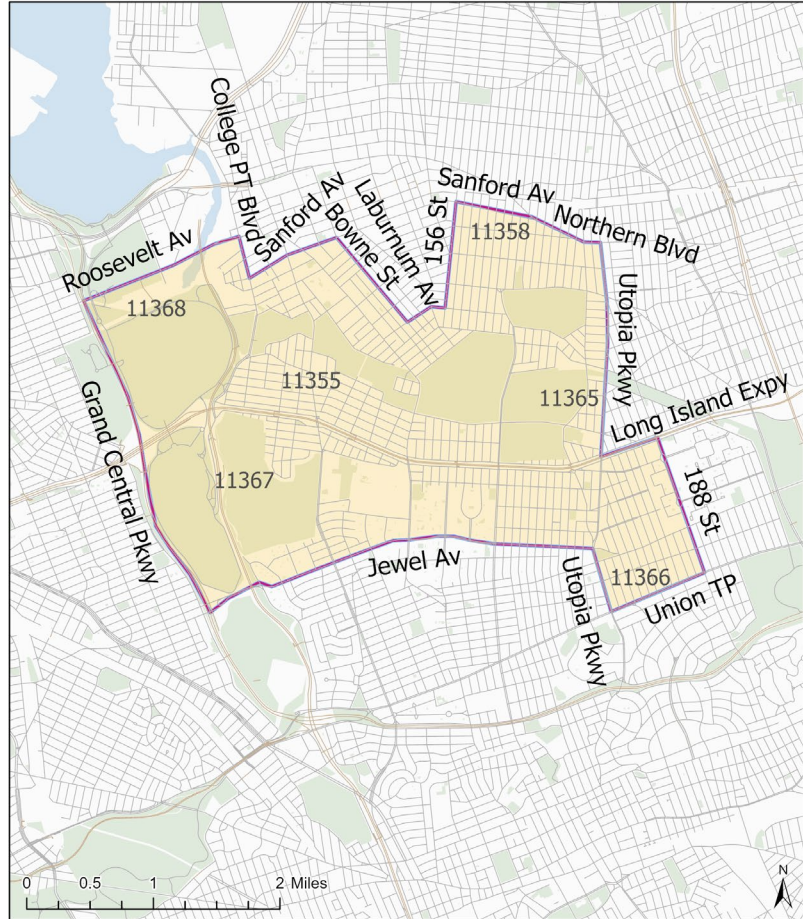
7/27/2026

NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene



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

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.



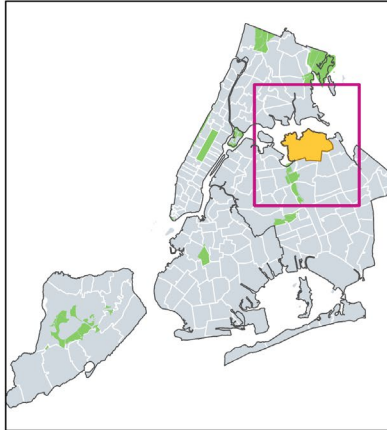


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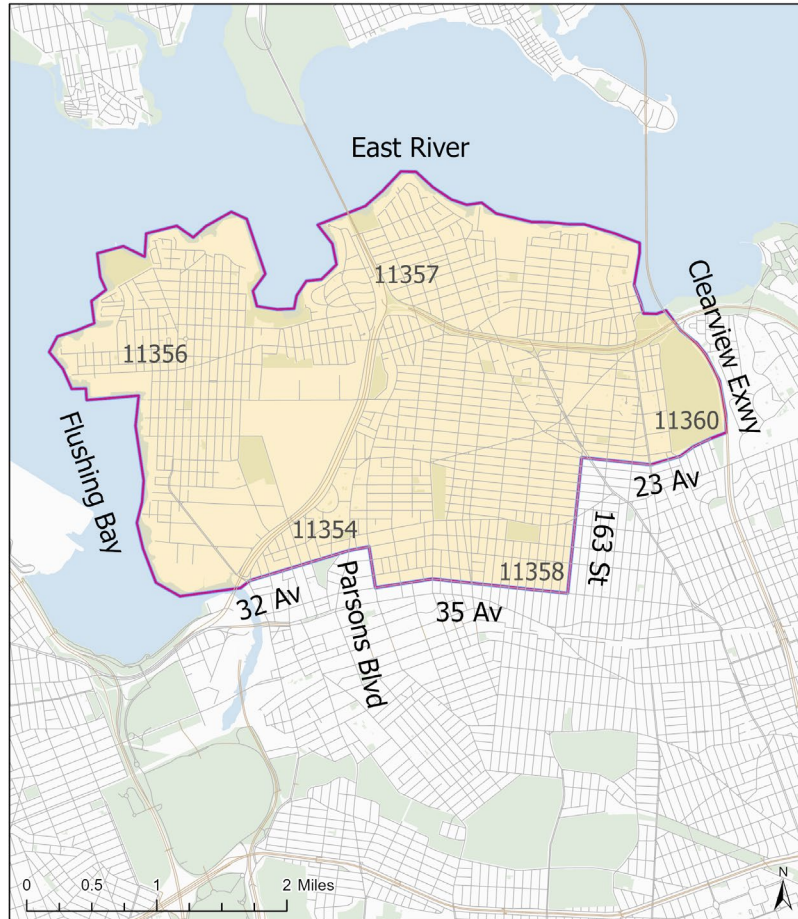
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