



Hawarden Newsletter

MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM

The City of Hawarden continues to implement its mosquito control program to stem the tide of West Nile here in Hawarden. The City will be using larvicides to address the problem. Larvicides attach to developing mosquitoes before adulthood and break the breeding cycles by eliminating the future generations of mosquitoes. The City has already begun implementing the program for this season by applying briquettes to open shallow surface water areas and known areas of temporary standing water. The City has chosen not to spray at this time for a variety of concerns.

Regardless of what the City does we can only reduce the risk. We continue to advise individuals to take action on their own property and in the personal protection of themselves. Some of the main mosquito species that carry the West Nile Virus are expected to start showing up in larger numbers in July.

To assist homeowners with fighting this problem on their property, in areas where water may stand, the City is offering free bacteria briquettes. One large briquette per household can be picked up at the City offices any time. The briquettes are safe and will come with instructions on how to break up and use the briquette. If a particular homeowner needs more than the one bacteria briquette, they are available commercially for purchase in a number of hardware and retail stores. The bacteria briquette lasts for 30 days. It works by being eaten by the larva, thereafter killing them. The bacteria is not supposed to harm birds, fish or other animals.

Protect yourself from mosquito bites and eliminate mosquito breeding sites by:

1. Limiting outdoor activities during prime mosquito hours of dawn and dusk
2. Wearing light colored, long-sleeved shirts and long pants whenever you are outdoors for long periods of time or when mosquitoes are most active.
3. Using insect repellents containing DEET or permethrin. Permethrin repellants should be applied to clothing only and should not be used on the skin. Products containing up to 30% DEET have been shown to be the most effective and are safe for adults, including pregnant women, and children over 2 months of age. DEET should be applied sparingly only on exposed skin and should not be used underneath clothing. The safest approach for infants and children under 2 years is to minimize exposure to mosquitoes, use insect repellents that have a DEET concentration of 10% or less, and properly follow the manufacturer's label directions for application.
4. Making sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens. Repair or replace screens with holes or tears.
5. Eliminating mosquito-breeding sites (they breed by laying eggs in standing water) by removing sources of standing water in outdoor areas where you work or play. Specific activities include:
 - * Turning over or removing items where rainwater can collect, such as ceramic pots, toys, buckets, tires, wading pools and tarps covering firewood and boats.
 - * Changing water in birdbaths and pet bowls every 3-4 days.
 - * Making sure roof gutters are clean and in good repair.
 - * Repairing leaky outdoor faucets, air conditioners and hoses.
 - * Stocking ornamental ponds with mosquito dunks or fish that eat mosquito larvae.

ATTENTION: PET OWNERS

Attention all pet owners within the City of Hawarden: All pets must be on a leash and have all their shots up to date. Pets found running at large will be picked up and brought to the West Sioux Vet Clinic. The owner must then pay for boarding before the pet will be released. The owner will also be charged with allowing their pet to run loose and will have to make a court appearance with a resulting fine of up to \$100. Failure to properly vaccinate your pet can also result in a court appearance and a fine of up to \$100.

Preparing For High Energy Costs — Energy Saving Measures for Summer

There are several options, many very simple, to be more efficient in your use of natural gas and electricity to help hold down the cost of your energy bills.

Low cost or no cost ideas:

- Reset thermostats to a few degrees warmer in the summer.
- Turn off unnecessary lights and appliances.
- Replace incandescent lights with compact fluorescents.
- Change furnace filters often.
- Lower hot water heater temperature to a reasonable setting.
- Keep obstructions away from heat and cooling registers.
- Weather seal doors and windows.
- Open or close doors, windows, and drapes effectively.

IF YOU SUSPECT OR DETECT A GAS LEAK

If you suspect or detect a gas leak, please call the Hawarden City Offices at 551-2565 immediately for assistance. Our office hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. After business hours call:

Brian Warner, Gas Foreman, at 551-6622,
Jeff Schurman, Gas Assistant, at 551-3839,
Tom Kane, Director of Public Works, at 551-1233

If any of the above is not available, please call the Hawarden Hospital at 551-3100 and they will direct your call to the proper authorities.

HAPP NEWS

Retail Committee sets July 12th as Crazy Days — Shop participating locations for bargains and register for a \$25.00 Ethanol Gas Card redeemable to Quick Corner, Casey's or Ericson Oil. Seventeen winners will be drawn.

Community Events Committee — Donations cans for the fireworks fund have been set up in several locations. All donations are appreciated.

Organization Committee — 4-Person Best Ball Golf Tournament is scheduled for August 4th with a 11:00 a.m. start. The public is welcome — to register call Brian at 551-4444.

If you are interested in volunteering for a committee or an event, please contact the HAPP office at 551-4433.

