

Fight the Bite!

In conjunction with The Otero County Health Department, The City of La Junta is participating in the fight against West Nile Virus. The City sprays neighborhoods for mosquitoes in an effort to prevent and control the spread of this virus as well as for the overall comfort of the citizens of La Junta. According to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment each citizen should do their part to also help to control mosquitoes. The one item that is of the greatest help in combating mosquitoes is to eliminate standing water around the home and property. Please check their Web site: www.fightthebitecolorado.com for more information regarding the disease and measures each of us can take. The following are just a few examples:

Property preventative measures

1. Remove standing water from all items such as; puddles, ditches, flower pots, wheelbarrows, toys, hub caps, boats, buckets, clogged rain gutters
2. Drill drainage holes in tire swings
3. Check birdbaths & wading pools and change weekly
4. Stock ponds with fish that eat mosquito larvae
5. Do not over water lawns and gardens
6. Trim shrubbery and remove weeds
7. Repair window and door screens
8. Repair water leaks around hoses, air conditioners, faucets



The City of La Junta will typically spray on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the early morning or evening hours as long as the weather is conducive for spraying.

As well as personal preventative measures:

1. Limit time spent outdoors at dawn and dusk, when the mosquitoes are most active.
2. Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants while outdoors
3. Use insect repellent containing DEET and carefully follow the directions
4. Maintained pools and whirlpool spas are not a hazard as chemicals and filters kill larvae

The City of La Junta sprays for mosquitoes in the early morning or evening hours because it has been proven that the pesticide spray is most effective while the mosquitoes are active.

