



CITY OF REVERE – Board of Health

Meeting Minutes, May 23, 2024

Call of Members: Dr. Drew Bunker, Viviana Catano, Michael Wells, Lauren Buck, Paula Sepulveda

Topic Discussed: Review and accept meeting minutes from April 25, 2024. Minutes presented to Board members; minutes approved.

Topic Discussed: Condemnation proceedings regarding 85 Jones Road (Michael Wells)

- Condemnation proceedings cancelled; property owners provided proof of purchase sale agreement

Topic Discussed: Smoking Violation (Bonny Carroll)

- Parkway Liquors, no representative from business present, second offense, fine was paid, 7-day suspension
- Board members uphold suspension and fine

Topic Discussed: Presentation from Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito Control & Wetlands Management District

- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a circular approach to managing pests, incorporating cultural, biological, and chemical control strategies. It is effective and environmentally sensitive, focusing on accurate mosquito identification, surveillance, prevention strategies, action and treatment thresholds, and suitable control measures. NEMMC uses techniques like education, surveillance, source reduction, habitat manipulation, biological controls, and targeted insecticides to minimize mosquito impact on human health.
- In 2022, the website was redesigned to be more user-friendly for residents, adding a translation service and offering various options. The homepage buttons focus on services like Residential ULV "Spray" and Property Inspection Requests, pesticides, FAQs, Protect yourself, and Notify me. The Municipal Toolbox is located in the top right corner, and the website is mobile-friendly, making it easier for residents to access relevant information. The website also includes a Municipal Toolbox for board members.
- Mosquito control districts in Massachusetts can use preventive, management, and eradication methods. They can inspect properties and sites for breeding mosquitoes, treat wet areas, inspect

unsanitary or vacant properties, and remove abandoned tires. Field Technicians leave doorknockers notifying residents and provide detailed emails with an inspection assessment.

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- Massachusetts' mosquito management program relies on surveillance to reduce mosquito populations and disease risks. With 52 mosquito species, the department is experienced in larval and adult surveillance methods. Adult surveillance starts in May and continues until September, collecting trap types and identifying female mosquitoes. Specimens are sent to public health labs for testing, with bird-biting mosquitoes sent to determine WNV or EEE circulating. If a community receives a positive virus notification, control districts submit bridge vector mosquitoes, which transmit the virus to humans and animals. The department may extend surveillance into October in highly active years.
- They use four main types of traps for surveillance: CDC/CO₂ light trap, gravid trap, and ovitrap trap. The CDC/CO₂ light trap uses carbon dioxide, octenol, and light to attract mosquitoes, while gravid traps collect mosquitoes that bite birds. Gravid traps use gravid water to lure females to lay eggs, while ovitrap traps collect mosquito eggs in dense urban areas. These traps are used for virus testing, monitoring mosquito activity, and pesticide efficacy studies. The company is particularly interested in *Aedes albopictus*, an invasive urban species that can transmit endemic and tropical arboviruses to humans. The traps are placed in historic locations to monitor mosquitoes over long periods.
- Resting boxes are peat fiber planting boxes used to monitor Eastern Equine Encephalitis in historic risk areas. These boxes mimic *Culiseta melanura* crypt habitats, the primary mosquito vector species in the EEE transmission cycle. They are placed on acid bogs and red maple swamps to protect *Melanura* from elements and potential bridge vectors.
- Supplemental traps are deployed after the first positive WNV or EEE detection in a municipality and are used for every virus notification after July. These traps are free-standing and ready for mobile deployment. They are used for pre and post monitoring of adulticide efficacy and areas with heavy mosquito complaints. Locations of traps are not disclosed to the public.
- The district is implementing integrated mosquito management through physical control through habitat mitigation and manipulation. They have cleared over 23,000 feet of impacted stormwater ditches and 57 culverts last year, preventing stagnant areas where mosquitoes can breed. Larger salt marsh restoration projects reduce mosquito habitat by providing deeper pools for birds and fish. The district has also removed and disposed of 648 abandoned tires through petitioned wetland management projects. They also invasively mow large areas of phragmites, which provide breeding habitat for mosquito species.
- Larviciding is a chemical method used to control mosquitoes in water-based habitats. The district maintains a database of historic larviciding sites, including spring snowmelt areas, woodland pools, agricultural pastures, river floodplains, flooded lawns, freshwater swamps, and salt marshes. Treatment begins in March and extends to September if necessary. Field teams dip multiple times for larvae and treat if numerous are present. Treatments may be done by hand,

backpack, mechanically, or aurally. Not all sites require treatment, and properties are inspected by residents and Boards of Health. Coastal salt marshes are aurally larvicided by helicopter to control salt marsh mosquitoes, benefiting coastal communities and inland cities.

- The catch basin program aims to reduce the seasonal risk of West Nile Virus in urban areas. *Culex* mosquitoes are the primary vector, and catch basins provide food, shelter, and stagnant water supply. Overwintering adult females lay eggs in these basins, which can harbor over 50 egg rafts. Treatments can reduce the total population by up to 80% compared to untreated basins. The program will begin in late May through June in basins north of Boston and in municipalities bordering Lawrence. Municipal DPWs can assist in efficient treatments by scheduling annual cleanings before or after August.
- Mosquitoes are easier to control when they are larvae, and our company offers a variety of proactive larvicide products that are registered with the EPA as category 4 and low to very low toxicity. These products target specific species at specific stages of development, habitats, and times of the year. They are packaged in liquid or granular form and have an efficacy of up to 85% or more. Our bacterial larvicides, containing bacillus strains, work through ingestion and are not toxic to humans, pets, animals, aquatic life, or insects. Methoprene, an insect growth regulator, is used for long-term control in high organic or polluted water conditions. Mechanical suffocants, like Cocobear, break water surface tension for larvae and pupae, breaking down within days.
- The district uses "Ultra Low Volume" truck-based adulticiding for virus response, utilizing a synthetic pyrethroid called Etonfenprox. The active ingredient is a synthetic pyrethroid found in chrysanthemum flowers and is used in flea medication. Adulticiding operations are conducted at night to protect bees and pollinators. The product is effective and reduces risk, providing quick, knockdown, and reliable control of flying mosquitoes. It is best used when mammal biting mosquito populations are high and when the virus is present. Nighttime applications are not effective for salt marsh mosquitoes, and only the local Board of Health can authorize such operations. The district evaluates its products annually for effectiveness and environmental safety.
- The district may recommend selective adulticiding applications for mosquitoes infected with WNV and EEE to reduce human infections. Boards of Health in subscribing member communities can request barrier treatments for schools, recreational areas, and municipal property. These treatments should be scheduled early and prior to the human virus transmission season, with late July into August. District virus response protocols must be met for block virus response in communities that adulticide for virus only. Boards of Health can request adulticiding through the municipal tool-box or email, and salt marsh mosquitoes should be used as day-biters.
- Schools may need to treat their property to increase mosquito protection, including catch basin treatments, larviciding, adulticiding, and barrier treatments. The School IPM Program is in compliance with the Children and Families Protection Act, which requires schools to list pesticides for outdoor use. Schools must include mosquito control in their plans. The MassNRC encourages school districts to create and maintain an IPM plan, and the organization sends a product line-up to IPM coordinators and Boards of Health every spring.
- Adulticiding is available for residents in some communities through a website. ULV truck-based treatments are used, with NEMMC marked white trucks passing through designated areas.

Residents and pets should stay indoors, air conditioners on, and doors and windows closed. Salt marsh mosquitoes can be problematic during the day, so repellants, proper clothing, and indoor activities are recommended. Maintaining lawns, vegetation, and disposing of water-filled containers is also encouraged.

- Residents can request exclusion from pesticide applications on their property by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. Private property owners can request exclusion from wide area applications by the district. Tenants must include landlord contact information and fill out a separate exclusion form. Exclusions can't be completed for public property. Requests start on January 1st and expire on December 31st. Exclusions can be waived in public health emergencies. Exclusions are automatically sent to the GIS mapping system.
- The District controls mosquitoes year-round and completes most wetland, tire, and ditch maintenance projects through winter, providing a seasonal breakdown of operational activities.

Topic Discussed: Public Health Communicable monthly report (Lauren Buck)

- The CDC issued a Health Alert Network Health Advisory on March 18, 2024, to inform health providers about the global and domestic increase in measles cases and provide recommendations for reducing outbreaks.
- The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) has launched a strategic plan to advance racial equity in all its work, focusing on addressing racism as a serious public health threat. The plan includes implementing a data equity framework, supporting staff participation in a Racial Equity Training Series, improving procurement systems, and establishing a DPH Cultural Assessment/Racial Equity Staff Survey to measure a collaborative and equitable culture. The plan aims to address health inequities across the state.
- Norovirus has surged in the Northeastern US, causing nausea and vomiting due to contaminated food. Surveillance data shows a rise in positive test results, with 13.7% in three weeks. Since December 2023, positive rates have remained above 10%. Proper handwashing is recommended.

Topic Discussed: Inspectional Services monthly report (Michael Wells)

- Michael Wells presents all inspections conducted by Inspectional Services in May

Topic Discussed: Licensing

- Initial Application for Chicken Keeping- Carmela & Luigi Dichiarà, 128 Malden St
- Body Art Establishment – Let Er Rip, LLC. & Boston Harley-Davidson
- Temporary Body Art Individual License – David Martinelli

All license approved by Dr. Drew Bunker, Viviana Catano