

Acton Board of Health

Room 9, Acton Town Hall
Acton, MA 01720
October 23, 2017

Members Present: Joanne Bissetta –Chairman, William McInnis and Mark Conoby.
Thomas Jacoby-Associate.

Staff Present: Sheryl Ball- Health Director
Weiyuan Sun- Weiyuan Sun-Administration

Other Present: Tim Deschamps, Katie Green, Doug Herrick and Peggy Mikkola

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m.

Minutes

On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Dr. Jacoby, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Board of Health minutes dated August 7, 2017 as amended.

Central Massachusetts Mosquito Update

Mr. Deschamps from Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project (CMMCP) was present to discuss mosquito control measures. Mr. Deschamps stated that CMMPC provides an Emergency Beaver Trapping Program as well as a Tire recycling program to assistance the Acton residents. The Health Department stated that they would like to work with CMMCP to implement a tire recycling program. The report from CMMCP included the following information.

Surveillance: Mosquito populations are monitored in both the larval and adult stages to determine the appropriate control methods to be employed, prevalent mosquito species, and disease transmission potential. 99 collections of mosquitoes from 11 trap sites. 42 collections submitted for testing, 1 positive West Nile Virus collection in Lothrop Road location. The Area sprayed Sept. 7.2017.

Larviciding: Wetlands and suspected mosquito breeding sites are monitored from March through September to determine the need for applications of environmentally sensitive products (typically Bti) to control and/or eliminate the larval mosquito. 23.5 lbs. of Bti applied in ~5 acres of wetlands. 1,389 catch basins treated for control of *Culex* larvae, a vector of West Nile Virus.

Source Reduction: Reducing or removing larval habitat by recycling, waste disposal or other means is a permanent solution. We have a tire recycling program for area resident, and have participated in hazardous waste events, Earth Day events and have removed numerous tire piles. 5 tires collected and recycled.

Ditch Maintenance: Mosquitoes need still, stagnant water to complete their life cycle. The Project conducts maintenance on ditches, culverts and man-made ponds to improve water quality and increase water flow, reducing the potential for larval mosquito habitat. 64 culverts cleaned, 995 feet of stream cleaned.

Adulticiding: Hand-held or truck mounted sprayers are used to reduce the adult mosquito levels in residential areas to reduce mosquito exposure. The Project has worked diligently over the past 20 years to achieve the goal of reducing the dependency on adulticiding by increasing the emphasis on larviciding, public education, source reduction and ditch maintenance. 536 service requests received from area residents.

Research and Efficacy: While CMMCP is an agency charged with the control of mosquitoes, we strive to check for efficacy of our products and techniques, and whenever possible perform research in new or different areas of mosquito control. Projects this year include: Field Trials of Natular™ G30 for Pre-

Hatch Control of Mosquito Larvae in Selected Spring Brood Locations; 2017 Resident Survey; Aerial Larval Mosquito Control Program – Spring 2017; Field Trials of Natular™ G for Control of *Coquillettidia perturbans* Larvae in Selected Cattail Locations; Bottle Assays of Field Collected Mosquitoes for Levels of Resistance to Anvil 10+10 in Central Mass.

Beaver Mitigation: CMMCP receives many requests from city and town officials and property owners seeking assistance to alleviate flooding cause by beaver activity. The most frequent issue affecting CMMCP is dam building activity which clogs culverts and drainage ditches. Increased flooding creates new habitat for mosquitoes and increases the need for Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques.

Public Education: Educating the public about mosquitoes and their biology is an important aspect of the Project's program. We offer a comprehensive program geared towards school-aged children from Kindergarten to High School in member communities. This program is tailored to meet the needs of intended audience.

The Board members thanked Mr. Deschamps for the update. The Health Department will contact with CMMPC for programs information.

Emergency Permit-Beaver Trapping -40 Brook Street

The Health Department received a request from 40 Brook Street for an emergency ten day beaver permit to allow for trapping that has caused flooding on the property that is encroaching on the septic system. The Health Department recommended that the Board approve a ten day emergency beaver trapping permit, beginning on October 23, 2017. On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Dr. Jacoby, the Board unanimously voted to approve an emergency beaver trapping permit for the property located on 40 Brook Street beginning on October 23, 2017 for a period of ten days.

Marijuana Update

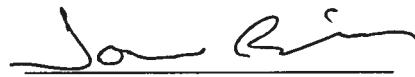
The Health Department is aware that there is two groups looking to sell medical marijuana in Acton. The Planning Department is holding a public hearing on November 7, 2017 at 7:30pm to discuss placing a one year moratorium on allowing facilities that sell recreational marijuana on the warrant for town approval.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Dr. Jacoby, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,


Weiyuan Sun
Acton Board of Health


Joanne Bissetta
Acton Board of Health