



DOWNSTREAM

Storm Water Quality Management

(405) 297-1774

www.okc.gov/pw/storm.html

Second Quarter, 2003

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The City of Oklahoma City opened its Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility, HHWCF, on September 9, 2003. The HHWCF is located at 3738 S.W. 15th (15th & Portland - entrance on 15th St.) and will be open Tuesday thru Friday 9:30 am to 6 pm and every Saturday from 8:30 am to 11:30 am. The facility will be available for use to Oklahoma City residents only. To verify residency, an Oklahoma City water bill is required from all citizens bringing items to the facility. Residents outside of the Oklahoma City limits should contact their City Hall for information concerning disposal of household hazardous waste.

Examples of items accepted at the HHWCF include: Latex paint products, batteries, antifreeze, waste oils, cleaning products, chemicals, and pesticides. In an effort to recycle collected items that have been determined safe, the HHWCF will offer an "exchange" program. Citizens can exchange waste brought in for disposal for useable products. Appliances, tires and commercial waste cannot be accepted at the HHWCF.

Household appliances can be disposed of through the Oklahoma City Solid Waste Division as a part of the Bulky Waste Collection program. Citizens must contact Utility Customer Services at 297-2833 to schedule a special pick up for Freon-charged appliances such as air conditioners, refrigerators and freezers. Refrigerated appliances will not be picked up without prior arrangements. All other household appliances can be placed on the curb for your regular bulky waste pickup.





Tips and Tidbits

West Nile Virus



Fight The Bite!

Avoid Mosquito Bites to Avoid Infection

When dealing with West Nile virus (WNV), prevention is your best bet. Fighting mosquito bites reduces your risk of getting this disease, along with others that mosquitoes can carry. Take the commonsense steps below to reduce your risk, and you'll:

- avoid bites and illness;
- clean out the mosquitoes from the places where you work and play;
- help your community control the disease.

Something to remember: The chance that any one person is going to become ill from a mosquito bite remains low. Most people who are infected with the virus will not develop any symptoms at all. The risk of severe illness and death is highest for people over 50 years old.

3 Ways to Reduce Your West Nile Virus Risk

- [Avoid Mosquito Bites](#)
- [Mosquito-Proof Your Home](#)
- [Help Your Community](#)

[Avoid Mosquito Bites](#)

- [Apply Insect Repellent Containing DEET](#) (Look for: *N,N-diethyl-meta-toluamide*) to exposed skin when you go outdoors. Even a short time being outdoors can be long enough to get a mosquito bite.



- [Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites.](#)

When possible, wear long sleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors. Mosquitoes may bite through thin clothing, so spraying clothes with repellent containing permethrin or DEET will give extra protection. Don't apply repellents containing permethrin directly to skin. Do not spray repellent containing DEET on the skin under your clothing.

- [Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours](#)

The hours from dusk to dawn are peak mosquito biting times for many species of mosquitoes. Take *extra* care to use repellent and protective clothing during evening and early morning -- or consider avoiding outdoor activities during these times.



[Mosquito-Proof Your Home](#)

- [Drain Standing Water](#)

Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by getting rid of items that hold water.

- [Install or Repair Screens](#)

Some mosquitoes like to come indoors. Keep them outside by having well-fitting screens on both windows and doors. Offer to help neighbors whose screens might be in bad shape.

[Help Your Community](#)

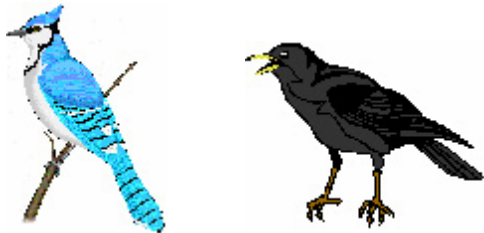
- [Clean Up](#)

Mosquito breeding sites can be everywhere. Neighborhood clean up days can be organized by civic or youth organizations to pick up containers from vacant lots and parks, and to encourage people to keep their yards free of standing water. Mosquitoes don't care about fences, so it's important to control breeding sites anywhere in the neighborhood.

☑ Report Dead Birds to Local Authorities

Dead birds may be a sign that West Nile virus is circulating between birds and the mosquitoes in an area. Over 130 species of birds are known to have been infected with West Nile virus, though not all infected birds will die. It's important to remember that birds die from many other causes besides West Nile virus.

Oklahoma City-County Health Department (OCCHD) keeps track of all dead bird reports for Oklahoma County. **Contact Acute Disease Services at 425-4437 to report any dead bird.**



The Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) will be continuing their WNV bird testing program on a smaller scale this year. Only crows, blue jays, hawks and other birds of prey are being tested. Last year, these species tested positive most often. Dead birds of the appropriate species should be taken to OSDH at 1000 NE 10th St. in Oklahoma City. For additional information, call 271-4060.

If the bird looks as though it has been dead for longer than a day or two, it is probably not suitable for testing. Due to personnel limitations, birds cannot be picked up by OSDH or OCCHD, but birds may be taken to OSDH 24 hours a day.

Although there is no evidence that people can catch West Nile virus from a dead or sick bird, it is recommended that you pick up the bird with gloves or a plastic bag over your hand, because birds can carry other diseases such as Salmonella.

Sources: *Center for Disease Control, Oklahoma City-County Health Department*

Feature Staff

Chris Stuart started with the Storm Water Quality Division in March 2003 as an Environmental Unit Specialist after six years in the private environmental industry. Chris graduated in 1996 from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, OK with a Biological Sciences Degree. He is a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager who will supervise operations at the new Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility.



Chris Stuart

Household Hazardous Waste
Collection Facility
Environmental Unit Specialist

Chris, wife Heather and daughters Emmy and Maddie, relocated to Oklahoma City from Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. They recently purchased a house in northwest Oklahoma City. His hobbies include antique shopping, bike riding, landscaping and genealogy. ■

Aaron Shook was hired in March 2003 to work at the new Household Hazardous Waste Collection facility as an Environmental Technician. He has worked in the environmental field for the past six years.



Aaron Shook

Household Hazardous Waste
Collection Facility
Environmental Technician

Aaron has a Bachelors of Science degree in Environmental Science from East Central University. In addition, he has a Masters degree in Business Administration from University of Central Oklahoma and is HAZWOPER certified. His past experience includes environmental remediation, field sampling and laboratory analysis.

Outside of work, Aaron enjoys mountain biking, boating, and spending time with friends. ■

Quarterly Activity Report

INDUSTRIAL

Site inspections.....352
Permits issued128

CONSTRUCTION

Site inspections.....1563
Permits issued207

POLLUTION INVESTIGATIONS53

HAZMAT RESPONSES.....14

ADOPT A CITY STREET

Bags collected457
Volunteer Hours1208



Storm Water Quality staff participate in a practical drill during HAZWOPER training at Francis Tuttle.

ENVIRONMENTAL*

Dry weather monitoring sites 553
Floatable study sites857 lbs.
2.48 cu. yds.

WATERSHED CHARACTERIZATION*

Aquatic invertebrate collections/site visits..... 13/30
Fish collections 8
Water quality site analyses..... 60
Other Project Site Visits** 134

STORM EVEN/WET WEATHER ANALYTICAL

Completed Events 12

* These programs are currently under development/redevelopment.

** OK State Fairgrounds Project, Regional Detention Pond Project, NCR River Well Project and Specific Pollution Investigation Laboratory Analysis.

-Abraham Lincoln

*You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow
by evading it today.*

Apply Mailing
Label Here

The City of
Oklahoma City
Department of Public Works
Storm Water Quality Management
420 West Main Street, Suite 700
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

