

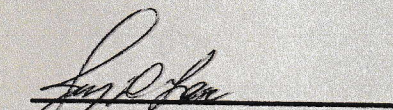
Village of Palisades
Community Emergency Meeting
June 29, 2023 at 6:30 in the Community Center

All Residents Welcome

Call to Order:

1. Emergency meeting with the City of Amarillo Environmental Health Dept. to answer the resident's questions and concerns about the mosquito population and the water testing.

Adjournment:



Jerry Lane, Mayor
Village of Palisades

This Agenda will be posted 6/29/2023



Village of Palisades Emergency Community Information Meeting

June 29, 2023 Community Center 6:30 P.M.

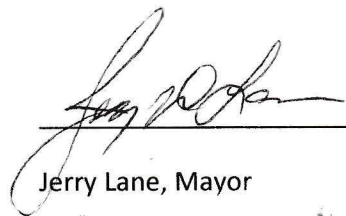
Mayor Jerry Lane called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Alderwoman Amelia Salazar, Aldermen Beau Fletcher and Dave LaRue were present, as well as many Palisades residents.

Mayor Lane introduced John Gates, Deputy Director for Amarillo Environmental Health. Village of Palisades is a member of the Amarillo Public Health District and is eligible for assistance from the Environmental Health Department via a Mutual Aid Agreement.

Mr. Gates discussed the standing water issues and mosquito problems we are experiencing as a result of recent flooding of our creek. The State of Texas placed mosquito traps in various places in Randall County. They have identified West Nile Virus, St. Louis Encephalitis, and one case of Cholera(from contaminated water)in our community. To combat these health issues in the mosquito population in our area, Mayor Lane signed a Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Amarillo at a meeting with several other mayors and Randall County officials on June 28, 2023. This agreement is temporary, and provides two foggings by the City of Amarillo in our community to kill larvae and adult mosquitos. Hopefully the State of Texas will fund this process, but if not, we will receive a bill from Amarillo.

Mr. Gates also discussed the "high organic load" in our creek water, and discouraged residents from getting in the creek or eating fish caught in it. He provided test kits and information on how to test and disinfect our water wells. He encouraged everyone to protect themselves and family members when going outside by wearing long sleeves and pants and using mosquito repellent. Emptying water from objects in our yards and putting mosquito dunks in horse tanks will keep the mosquito population down.

Vicki Hooker, Secretary



Jerry Lane, Mayor



For Immediate Release

June 28, 2023

Fight the Bite With Awareness, Prevention

AMARILLO – Recent rains and related flooding across Amarillo have subsided. However, the abundance of water has renewed the focus on what is a traditional event in Amarillo – the increase of mosquitoes.

“Mosquitoes can be more than just a nuisance or pest,” said City of Amarillo (COA) Director of Environmental Health Anthony Spanel. “Mosquitoes can carry harmful illnesses. Considering the amount of rain Amarillo has had we are seeing an increase in the mosquito population. It is more important than ever that the public be aware of mosquito prevention.”

Mosquito awareness and prevention is as simple as following the four Ds:

- **Drain** all standing water to reduce mosquito breeding areas.
- **Dress** in long sleeves and pants.
- **Wear** insect repellent with DEET.
- **Daily:** Follow these steps all day and every day.

“Following the four Ds are simple steps that can have a positive impact on public and community health,” said COA Director of Public Health Casie Stoughton. “Mosquitoes can spread diseases such as West Nile virus. Symptoms can include fever, headache, neck stiffness, muscle pain and joint pain.”

There are no medications to prevent mosquito-borne illnesses such as West Nile virus.

“Antibiotics are not effective against viruses,” Stoughton said. “Rest, fluids, and over-the-counter pain medications may relieve symptoms. Anyone with symptoms should see their doctor or medical care provider.”

COA conducts mosquito spraying at approximately 15-20 locations each week, not including areas receiving complaints by citizens, which are investigated.

“We are seeing mosquito pools testing positive for West Nile virus in county areas such as Lake Tanglewood, Palisades, Spring Lake and Gordon Cummings,” Spanel said. “The public can make a difference with simple steps such as properly maintaining lawns and removing standing water from their property.”

West Nile virus is also a concern for horses.



NEWS RELEASE

2023

“West Nile virus builds with intensity as the summer season progresses. We want to remind horse owners to vaccinate their horses,” said COA Director of Animal Management and Welfare Victoria Medley.

For more information call the COA Environmental Health Department at (806) 378-9472 or go to: bit.ly/44oUz23

Also for more information, contact City of Amarillo Media Relations Manager Dave Henry at (806) 378-5219 or by email at David.Henry@amarillo.gov.