

Jon Jennings – Mosquito Control Permit Comments  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
Water Quality Program  
P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504

MAR 26 2010  
WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

Dear Mr. Jennings:

In years past I have called our mosquito control district with concerns about adult mosquitoes. They have helped me out by fogging in my neighborhood. I am concerned that The Mosquito Control Permit that is currently being considered will prevent the district from quickly responding to these problems.

I know the district spends a lot of time and money on larva control and I'm sure this helps, but they never seem to get them all. Mosquito control programs must be allowed to control adult mosquitoes as well. I am asking you to reword the permit so that we can continue to have adult mosquito control when needed.

We expect our mosquito control district to respond when we call with a mosquito problem. We pay for this service with tax dollars because we want to enjoy the outdoors during the summer months. Don't write rules that will prevent our district from fogging when we have so many mosquitoes that we need to call for their help.

Sincerely,

You may or may not have been exposed to Mosquitos before so I would like to give you the oppertunity to see first hand how unenjoyable it can be in Carrolls during the summer months, even when they spray. If they quit spraying, we woult even be able to go outside atall. I would like to invite you, your family & your friends to come and spend an evening with me this summer. Bring your repellent, but that will barely slow them down. Call Tom at 360-9573995 to let me know when you are coming.

C#517

Do they have Mosquitos?

## Hearing and Workshop

A public hearing and workshop on the permit is scheduled to be held in Moses Lake, Washington. At the workshop Ecology will explain the draft permit and answer questions. A hearing will immediately follow the workshop. Oral comments may be made at the hearing.

### Hearing and Workshop

**March 9, 2010 (1 p.m.)**

Moses Lake Fire Department

701 E. Third Ave.

Moses Lake, WA 98837

**For Additional Information Contact:** Del Gilkerson, Cowlitz County Mosquito Control;  
(360) 423-5311 or (360) 425-5658  
cowmo@cni.net

**Background:** Mosquitoes are fragile beings. The amount of pesticide needed to kill a mosquito is much less than is needed to kill other pests. A typical mosquito spraying application uses about 0.6 ounces of product per acre. Most homeowner's yards are less than one acre, but for demonstration purposes try to spray one ounce of water over your yard to get an idea of how much pesticide is delivered by a mosquito truck. Also, keep in mind that only 20% of that product is active ingredient, the rest are inert ingredients.

The machines used for mosquito spraying put out tiny droplets of spray that are less than 30 microns in size. To give you an idea what that means, the period at the end of this sentence is about 397 microns. The small droplets spread out and travel 300 feet from the vehicle and come in contact with flying mosquitoes. The droplets get smaller as they travel and eventually deposit on the ground or other objects in their path. The amount of product that is left over after flight is not harmful to plants or animals, but it is still considered a *pesticide residue* by definition. If mosquito control is not permitted for incidental *residue* on surface water, than we can not spray near the areas where mosquitoes live; near *waters of the state*.

**Comments from Mosquito Control:** "During periods of high mosquito populations Cowlitz County Mosquito Control can receive more than 50 requests for spraying per day. We have provided this service to the community for over 15 years without adverse effects on the residents or the environment. We use the safest and most effective products available, the latest advances in equipment, and use sound science in determining when and where to spray," says Del Gilkerson, Manager of the Cowlitz County Mosquito Control District.

"Citizens of our county have not been exposed to how bad the mosquitoes could get because their control district has been there to respond. If this permit is allowed to move forward without opposition from the public, when it is time for mosquito spraying this summer it will be too late," says Mr. Gilkerson.

Del Gilkerson; District Manager  
Box 1261  
Longview, WA 98623

Phone: (360) 423-5311  
cowmo@cni.net

# Cowlitz County Mosquito Control District

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You have called the Mosquito Hotline in the past and we have done our best to control adult mosquitoes in your area. You need to know that **we will not be able to spray for adult mosquitoes in the future if new rules proposed by the Washington State Department of Ecology go into effect.**

Mosquito Control Districts in the State of Washington will be forced to deny requests for mosquito spraying if the Department of Ecology passes new regulations. A permit drafted by Ecology states that **“*Adulticides and their residues used for nuisance mosquito control must not be discharged to waters of the state.*”**

The mosquitoes found around Silver Lake and the mosquitoes that come out from time to time around Carrolls, West Kelso, West Longview and most other parts of our county are classified as nuisance mosquitoes. These new regulations, if they go into effect, will prevent us from responding to your requests for mosquito control.

Policy makers do not seem to understand that nuisance mosquitoes may not spread disease, but they effect livestock and pets, and make outdoor recreation and work stressful and uncomfortable. Mosquitoes that do not pose a threat to humans often do pose a threat to dogs by carrying heartworm and horses by carrying Equine Encephalitis.

**URGENT: Help Mosquito Control Districts by providing public comment to the Department of Ecology. Let Ecology know that you want Mosquito Control to spray nuisance mosquito as well as those that spread disease. Also ask them to extend the comment period on the draft permit and to hold a public hearing closer to Longview so that people from our area may attend.**

**We have enclosed a letter you may want to send to DOE. Please write your own comments on this letter if you do use it and include your name and mailing address.**

Link to the draft permit:

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/pesticides/final\\_pesticide\\_permits/mosquito/mosquito\\_index.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/pesticides/final_pesticide_permits/mosquito/mosquito_index.html)

## Submitting Written Comments

Ecology will accept written comments on the draft permit, fact sheet, and notice of intent until 5 pm, March 10, 2010. Ecology prefers comments be submitted by email. Emailed comments must contain the commenter's name and postal address. Comments should reference specific permit text when possible. Submit comments by email to: [jonathan.jennings@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jonathan.jennings@ecy.wa.gov).

Submit written comments to:  
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