

HAMPTON VA

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

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City hopes to eliminate mosquito breeding areas

Aug. 10, 2016 - City workers and volunteers will go door-to-door this weekend distributing information on how to battle container-breeding mosquitoes in Hampton's high-risk areas.

The departments of Emergency Management, Public Health, Public Works and Community Development are working together to mobilize volunteers from the Community Emergency Response Team, Peninsula Medical Reserve Corp., and Neighborhood Services.

They will distribute door hangers from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 13 and on Saturday, Aug. 20. The hangers encourage residents to help eliminate mosquito breeding grounds by tipping or tossing anything that might hold standing water, including garbage cans and flower pots, old tires, drums, or broken appliances. The hangers also ask residents to protect boats and vehicles from rain with tarps that don't accumulate water. Finally, residents are encouraged to wear long, loose, light-colored clothing and to apply mosquito repellent to bare skin and clothing.

Mid-August through September is peak mosquito season in Hampton Roads. The primary concern locally is the Asian Tiger mosquito, which can also be a carrier of the Zika virus. "High-risk" areas include older neighborhoods with mature vegetation and homes or buildings that are close together.

Volunteers will focus on the Phoebus, Buckroe, Wythe, Southampton, Northampton Little England (Shell Road) North King Street, and Andrews/Nickerson areas. For more information, and to find out what you can do to stay safe, visit <http://www.hampton.gov/609/Environmental-Services> or go to <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/zika/>.

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