



Denver Environmental Health Department

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April 28, 2014

To: Jessica Coppom
Kevin A Burnett, Executive Director, Stapleton MCA

From: Doug Linkhart, Executive Director

Re: Mosquito Control Efforts at Stapleton

I wanted to follow up on our earlier communication to let you know that we share your interest in mosquito control at Stapleton and are anxious to work with you toward solutions in both the short and long term.

The City and the Stapleton Master Community Association (MCA) play an active role in mosquito control. In addition, builders and undeveloped parcel owners have a responsibility to manage property they each control throughout Stapleton. The City and the MCA will continue to work with the community and coordinate our efforts to most effectively address the problem. A developing community the size of Stapleton, with the quantity of parks, open space and native areas will most likely always be confronted with mosquitoes throughout the breeding season.

In 2013 the Department of Environmental Health (DEH) increased our efforts at Stapleton to conduct mosquito larvae surveillance and treat stagnant water breeding sites as necessary. This provided insight on mosquito productivity sites, as well as needed infrastructure operations and maintenance improvements to decrease the amount of mosquito habitat in the days following storm events. DEH plans to continue larval monitoring and control efforts at Stapleton again in 2014. Denver does not spray pesticides to control adult mosquitoes.

We will convene a May meeting of all interested parties including Stapleton MCA, Park Creek Metro District, DEH, Public Works, and Parks to clarify roles and responsibilities before summer approaches. We are offering to lead a tour at Stapleton in mid-May to discuss last year's findings, to highlight potential mosquito breeding sites, and to provide suggestions for residents to minimize the problem in 2014. We are also trying to schedule time at the May 19 Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN) meeting. Appropriate notice will be sent when dates are confirmed.

DEH has also worked with the Bluff Lake Nature Center personnel over the past several years on various aspects of mosquito monitoring and control. The Bluff Lake Site Manager checks for mosquito larvae twice each week, applying a larvicide for mosquitoes when conditions warrant.

Please feel free to submit questions and comments on this subject to Alan Polonsky in Environmental Health. He can be reached at 720-865-5480.

Sincerely,

Doug Linkart
Executive Director

Cc: Chris Herndon, City Council District 11