



NuisanceNews

A bimonthly publication from the Ada County Weed, Pest and Mosquito Abatement Department

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The Facts About Mosquito Fogging



Ada County Weed, Pest and Mosquito Abatement will begin its night time mosquito fogging or Adulticiding Program later this month. Ultimately, our goal is to eliminate mosquitoes at the larvae or pupae stage, before they become flying adult mosquitoes, but in the event we don't get to them soon enough, our Adulticiding crew will then step into action.

There are some common misconceptions about mosquito fogging in regards to public safety. We assure you that public safety is our number one concern and we take it very seriously. The pesticides we use are environmentally safe and pose no threat to plants, animals, or people. The reason we fog in the evening isn't because people will be inside, it's because that's the time when mosquitoes are most active. According to the Environmental Protection Agency mosquito adulticides are applied as ultra-low volume (ULV) sprays. ULV sprayers dispense very fine aerosol droplets that stay aloft and kill flying mosquitoes on contact. ULV applications involve small quantities of pesticide active ingredient in relation to the size of the area treated, typically less than 3 ounces per acre, which minimizes exposure and risks to people and the environment.

Adulticides can be used for public health mosquito control programs without posing risks of concern to the general population or to the environment when applied according to the pesticide label. For more information on the pesticides commonly used in public health mosquito control programs log onto the EPA web site and look under Mosquito Control.

Our mosquito fogging trucks are customized to deliver insecticide applications to pastures, commercial and industrial properties, parks, and residential subdivisions. Our trucks are prepared and equipped with a Dyna Jet ULV Fogger with a 300 foot spray swath, an AIRMAR Weather Station which receives current weather data such as wind speed, wind direction, and temperature, and GIS/GPS technology to track and map all insecticide applications.



If you have unusually high numbers of mosquitoes this summer where you live, please give us a call at 208-577-4646 and we will respond promptly. Requests for mosquito fogs can also be made online under adaweb.net/WPM. Controlling mosquito populations will make evenings much more enjoyable this summer and will significantly reduce the threat of West Nile virus.

CROP Recycling Program



Ada County Weed Pest and Mosquito Abatement participates in the Container Recycling Operation (CROP) program sponsored by the Department of Agriculture. Its purpose is to recycle non-degradable plastic pesticide and crop production containers rather than have them burned, illegally dumped, or placed in a landfill. Since 2007 WPM has recycled over 7,000 empty herbicide and pesticide containers totalling over 10,000 pounds or 5 tons of recyclable plastic. These plastic containers are broken down into chips which are used in wood-substitute products such as pallets, signs, fence posts, speed bumps and parking lot stops.

Have You Seen This Noxious Weed?



Dyer's Woad

Dyer's Woad is a non-palatable, aggressive weed with allelopathic properties (it produces chemicals which inhibit growth in other plants close by.) This species has a history of establishing across thousands of acres of western rangeland, and infestations are known from eight western states.

Dyer's woad, also known as Marlahan mustard, can be a winter annual, a biennial, or a short-lived perennial. It is native to Europe and invades rangeland, grain fields, pastures, ditch banks, waste areas, roadsides, and fence rows. It can also be found in orchards and in cultivated row crops. Unlike many other weeds in the mustard family, Dyer's woad does well in undisturbed land. Its mustard yellow flower is seen as early as April, and seeds mature in June or July. If you come across this weed or any other noxious weed please call our office at 208-577-4646 and report its location.

Education Trailer Update

Construction has begun on our new education trailer. Double R Trailer in Nampa is custom building the trailer to our exact specifications and it should be completed sometime during the first part of May. Upon completion of the trailer, a full vehicle wrap will be applied to the outside of the trailer and the design and construction of the interior will begin. Our goal is to have the trailer available for public viewing during Weed Awareness Week which begins the week of May 20th. Please check our facebook page and website for updates on trailer locations throughout the summer.



Check Out Weed Awareness Week May 20th - May 24th 2013



Noxious Weed Awareness Week is scheduled for the week of May 20th through May 24th. The purpose of this week is to raise public awareness on noxious weeds and the dangers they may present. So much of what we do is dependent on public involvement. Being able to identify certain types of noxious weeds and reporting their locations to us, helps us control an outbreak that we may have not known about before. Containing an outbreak in one area helps prevent its spread into another. Become familiar with the noxious weeds in your area and you could prevent a noxious weed infestation.

New Display At Foothills Learning Center

As an on-going effort to create public awareness on noxious weeds, The Foothills Learning Center has agreed to put up a display high-lighting the noxious weeds found in our very own foothills. The Foothills Learning Center provides information on the Boise foothills and the surrounding high-desert environment. It is a place for learning by direct experience with the outdoors. It is open to the public and is part of a school-aged education program that teaches young students how to reduce their impact on the planet. Our display will be specific to the noxious weeds found in our foothills and the impact they have on our environment.



*Visit the Foothills Learning Center this summer.
3188 Sunset Peak Rd., Boise, ID 83702*

2013 Ada County Open House



On April 20th, WPM participated in the first annual National County Government Open House. It was an event that gave the public a unique opportunity to visit with county agencies, meet their elected officials, and get a first hand look at the services they provide. Tours of the Ada County Courthouse were also available. Special county vehicles were on hand for public viewing including an Ada County Paramedics Ambulance, Sheriff's Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) vehicle, and Weed, Pest & Mosquito Abatement sprayer trucks.

April is National County Government Month and this open house will become an annual event. The event promises to get bigger and better as county officials review what worked and what didn't work as they plan for next year.