



Berkeley County Government

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For Immediate Release
March 4, 2018

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Berkeley County Mosquito Abatement to Commence Evening Spraying

MONCKS CORNER, S.C. - (Sunday, March 4, 2018)- Berkeley County Mosquito Abatement will begin evening spray operations March 5, 2018 as weather conditions permit. An unseasonably warm February has led to an early start to the mosquito season in Berkeley County.

Mosquito Abatement personnel have been in the field since January, inspecting standing water throughout the County and treating water where juvenile mosquitoes are found. Crews have already experienced two significant mosquito hatch-offs; one in the northern portion of the County along the Santee River basin, and the second in the southern, salt-marsh region.

To date, rainfall totals are below normal, but it is too early to predict the severity of the mosquito season. One week with above average rainfall can create a multitude of mosquito breeding sites.

There are multiple actions residents can take to minimize mosquito breeding opportunities around their homes. Anything that holds water is a potential breeding site: tires, buckets, birdbaths, flower pots, boats, sagging boat covers, and pet bowls, and others. Removing or emptying these containers once a week, will break the mosquito life cycle. Rain gutters can also be breeding sites when clogged with leaves or other debris, preventing drainage.

Even with preventative work, Mosquito Abatement crews will still have to contend with adult mosquitoes. The best protection against biting mosquitoes is to limit the time you are outside during peak biting times (the hours around dusk and again at dawn). If you must be outdoors when mosquitoes are active, dress in light colored, long sleeved shirts and pants and/or use an effective mosquito repellent. Horse owners are strongly encouraged to have your horses vaccinated.

Should the public have any question, they are asked to contact the Berkeley County Mosquito Abatement office at 843-719-4646.

- Prepared by the Berkeley County Public Information Office -