

# CITY OF FORT COLLINS WEST NILE VIRUS PROGRAM TECHNICAL ADVISORY MEETING 2024

Location: Hybrid Option --- Nix Main Conference Room and Zoom  
Nix Natural Areas Office  
1745 Hoffman Mill Road, Fort Collins, CO, 80524

Date: Wednesday, April 3, 2024

Time: 4:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Attendees: Ginny Sawyer, Kim Meyer-Lee, Korrie Wilford, Greg McMaster, Russ Schumacher, Chet Moore, Roxanne Connelly, Kendra Smits, Will Schlatmann, Erika Cathey, Ryan Vincent, Katie Donahue, Matt Parker

Zoom Link:

<https://fcgov.zoom.us/j/93202453600?pwd=MmxZdG1YSdD4aGI5Ti9HdTZja2V6dz09>

Meeting ID: 932 0245 3600

Passcode: .C0fE?ŠK

**Dinner will be provided. Please RSVP and provide any dietary needs/requests.**

## Agenda Items:

4:30 – 4:40	Introductions
4:40 – 5:20	Russ Schumacher, CSU, Colorado State Climatologist
5:20 – 5:50	Will Schlatmann, Vector Disease Control International
5:50 – 6:00	Amy Resseguie, CFC Public Information
6:00 – 6:20	Kim Meyer-Lee, Larimer County
6:20 – 7:00	Discuss 2024 Season

Russ Schumacher, CSU, Colorado State Climatologist

Russ provided a review of the weather in 2023. The spring saw below normal temperatures, and rainfall values above normal. May 2023 was the 4<sup>th</sup> wettest May on record. Cooler temperatures gave way to more normal highs through the summer, but precipitation remained higher than average, resulting in nearly 2x the average for Fort Collins (over 24"). 2024's outlook indicates a

swing away from El Nino conditions towards La Nina. This tends to be drier and hotter for the Fort Collins area.

Will Schlatmann, Vector Disease Control International

Will provided a summary of 2023, which was the most challenging year for the region, the staff, and the manager. Conditions required alterations in operations, including limiting spray missions to one night as opposed to the standard two nights. 2023 saw an all-time high in the number of mosquito pools tested, representing a 32% increase over the previous all-time high. Average culex per trap-night in 2023 was 79, while the second highest year (2021) was 56. As for larval treatments, 10,402.8 lbs of BTi were used, along with 21.9 gallons of BVA mineral oil. This represents a 1.6% value (mineral oil use as a percentage of total larval control), meeting the target of less than 2.0%. Six total applications were made within Fort Collins city limits, totaling 919 miles.

Amy Resseguie, City of Fort Collins Public Information Office

Amy shared the City's outreach efforts which included key improvements to mapping among other items. Through Amy's efforts, the City redesigned the maps provided to the public, greatly simplifying the images and making them more consistent, and easier to read. On the truck tracking maps, staff extended the time the "crumb" track displayed to allow for community members to identify the spray area the following day. Amy noted that in addition to the tremendous increase in mosquito activity, a higher-than-normal number of calls in 2023 were requesting the City take action against mosquitoes.

Kim Meyer-Lee, Larimer County Health Department

Kim shared background information on the human risk of contracting WNV, including identification of the higher risk presented by people working outside, individuals over 50, and those with compounding issues. Larimer County saw 52 cases in 2023, with the average number of cases over the past 4 years was 13 cases.

General Discussion – 2024 Season

VDCI will be adding an additional technician in 2024. Matt Parker shared that many calls came to the City requesting mitigation action for neighborhoods that do not have mosquito traps and therefore will not likely be treated. Matt shared his intention to write a budget offer to address this inequality. Will Schlatmann shared that new technology in the formulations of BTi may allow for increased control duration.