



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 19, 2017

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### **City Providing Free Mosquito Dunks to Residents**

**New Braunfels, Texas** — To help control mosquito populations and combat the threat of Zika, as well as West Nile virus and other mosquito related illnesses, the City of New Braunfels Environmental Services Division is providing free mosquito dunks to the City of New Braunfels residents.

A Mosquito dunk contain bacteria toxic only to mosquito larvae, lasts approximately 30 days and treats up to 100 square feet of surface water. Non-toxic to all other wildlife, pets, fish, and humans, they are easy to apply to any standing water, or water garden. They may be broken into smaller sections to treat multiple, small areas of standing water that are not easily drained.

The mosquito dunks will be available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 550 Landa Street at the main reception area. The City will provide one package per household and citizens must show proof of residency (driver's license or utility bill) and may only apply the dunks to their private property. The product is not for resale and residents should follow the product label. Dunks will be distributed while supplies last. Additional dunks may be purchased from local stores.

The public is a crucial part of the overall solution of eliminating mosquito-breeding areas in their yards and limiting their exposure to mosquitoes. Here are some simple recommendations using the 4 D's:

- Defend yourself by using insect repellents as directed – follow label instructions
- Dress in long sleeves and pants, loose and light colored clothing when you go outside
- Dusk and dawn, stay indoors during this time to avoid mosquitoes when they are most active
- Drain standing water and install or repair window screens

#### **Protection against mosquito bites**

Residents are urged to take precautions against mosquito bites by reducing outdoor activity during early morning and nighttime hours. Residents who are outside during these times should cover their arms and legs and use a mosquito repellent.

#### **Prevent mosquito breeding**

Residents should eliminate standing water to prevent mosquito breeding and the spread of West Nile virus and Zika. Breeding places for mosquitoes include swimming pools that are not kept clean, stagnant ponds, pet watering dishes, birdbaths, potted plants, old tires, empty containers, toys, clogged rain gutters and French drains. Standing water should be eliminated promptly, as mosquitoes can grow from egg to adult in as little as seven days.

The mosquito dunk program augments other mosquito control efforts, and residents may obtain additional information at [www.nbtexas.org/Mosquito-Control](http://www.nbtexas.org/Mosquito-Control). This site will be updated with new information as needed.

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