

Metropolitan Mosquito Control District

Executive Committee
September 23, 2026
9:15 AM

Information Packet

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT M E E T I N G A N N O U N C E M E N T

COMMITTEE: **Executive Committee Meeting**

IN PERSON: **Metropolitan Mosquito Control District**
2099 University Avenue West
St. Paul, MN 55104

DATE: **Wednesday, September 23, 2026**
TIME: **9:15AM**

A G E N D A

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda*
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of June 24th, 2026 Executive Meeting Minutes*
5. Legislative Update – Kim Scott & Peg Larsen
6. Building Projects and Groundbreaking – Alex Carlson
7. Fund Balance – Maria Mancilla- Diaz
8. Employee Engagement – Jennifer Macchia and Parda Her
9. Donation Policy – Maria Mancilla-Diaz*
10. Executive Director’s Report – Daniel Huff
11. Other Issues and Announcements
12. Adjournment

* Action Requested

Commissioner Rena Moran	Ramsey County
Commissioner Lisa Anderson	Carver County
Commissioner Jeff Reinert	Anoka County
Commissioner Liz Workman	Dakota County
Commissioner Kevin Anderson	Hennepin County
Commissioner Dave Beer	Scott County
Commissioner Fran Miron	Washington County

Next Commission Meeting: Wednesday, October 23, 2026 – 9:15 a.m.

Next Executive Meeting: Wednesday, November 19, 2026 – 9:15 a.m.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Requested by:

Executive Director Daniel Huff

Action Requested:

Approve Executive Meeting Minutes – June 24, 2026

June 24, 2026 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Roll Call:

Commissioner Jeff Reinert	Anoka County
Commissioner Liz Workman	Dakota County
Commissioner Rena Moran	Ramsey County
Commissioner Kevin Anderson	Hennepin County
Commissioner Dave Beer	Scott County
Commissioner Lisa Anderson	Carver County
Commissioner Fran Miron	Washington County

Staff:

Daniel Huff, Executive Director
Maria Mancilla-Diaz, Business Administrator
Nancy Read, PhD, Data Systems Coordinator
Alex Dyakin, Field Operations Supervisor
Monte Ebbesen, Public Affairs Assistant

Visitors:

Sam Ketchum, MMCD Legal Counsel
Kim Scott, MMCD Lobbyist
Peg Larsen, MMCD Lobbyist

Chair Rena Moran called the meeting to order at 9:16am. Present Executive members included Commissioners Moran, Lisa Anderson, Kevin Anderson, Liz Workman, and Fran Miron. Commissioner David Beer joined remotely due to an inability to travel at the time of the meeting.

Chair Moran opened the room for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Kevin Anderson made a motion; Commissioner Lisa Anderson seconded. By roll call, the agenda was approved unanimously. Following, Commissioner Workman motioned to approve the consent agenda; Commissioner Kevin Anderson seconded. The consent agenda was approved unanimously by roll call.

Chair Moran invited MMCD Lobbyists Peg Larsen and Kim Scott to provide their legislative update. Ms. Larsen reported that post-session, legislative officials were taking it easy. She also mentioned that at the Minnesota DFL convention, current US Senator Amy Klobuchar had won the gubernatorial bid. Ms. Scott shared that Governor Tim Walz had signed all bills that passed during the legislative session, electing not to exercise his veto power. Notably, he signed the bill that would establish a memorial for the late Speaker of the House, Melissa Hortman, and her husband. Ms. Scott also shared that MMCD staff would present to the MN Solid Waste Administrators Association product stewardship committee and would be having a meeting with Liberty Tire recyclers for further discussion of potential tire waste legislation. Ms. Scott also noted that the bill that MMCD introduced during the previous legislative session (H.F. 5129) was modelled after legislation in Connecticut, the only state to have passed a tire law. Ms. Scott and Ms. Larsen opened the room for questions. Commissioner Workman asked if

there were any measurable outcomes from the Connecticut tire law, to which Ms. Scott replied that it had only been enacted for a year. Chair Moran thanked Ms. Larsen and Ms. Scott for their update.

Chair Moran invited Business Administrator Maria Mancilla-Diaz to present the proposed Records Retention Schedule. Ms. Mancilla-Diaz explained that the approval of such a schedule would allow MMCD staff to properly and lawfully retain data during the planned renovation of the Saint Paul Laboratory. Chair Moran opened the room for questions.

Commissioner Kevin Anderson asked if a schedule had existed before. Ms. Mancilla-Diaz responded that MMCD did not have an official document, and staff had historically followed state and municipal guidelines. Commissioner Anderson then asked if the adoption of the policy came with the risk of retroactively violating the policy itself and expressed a desire for greater specifics in the retention of legal-related documents. MMCD Legal Counsel Sam Ketchum assured Commissioners that details would be ironed out before the proposed schedule was brought to the board. Some discussion also occurred regarding the high volume of data that needed to be reviewed. Commissioner Kevin Anderson moved to recommend approval of the proposed schedule; Commissioner Miron seconded. By roll call, the motion was approved unanimously.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Presented by:

Lobbyists Kim Scott and Peg Larsen

Informational:

Legislative Update

‘Tis the season of political ads, door knocking, and speculation. An interesting poll of sorts was released recently on Minnesota elections—a prediction market. The market put the odds of Amy Klobuchar besting Lisa Demuth in the governor’s race at 94.6%, Peggy Flanagan over Michelle Tafoya at 90.1%, the odds of congressional districts being maintained by incumbents were all over 80%, and the odds of democrat Matt Little winning the CD2 race over Eric Pratt are at 91%. Recent survey polls put the contests for governor and senate much closer with Klobuchar leading Demuth by anywhere from 2-16 percentage points and Flanagan leading Tafoya in the senate race by 1-5 percentage points with one poll showing Tafoya leading by 1 percentage point. Neither measure, prediction markets nor polls, are infallible, and much can change in the next two months before election day. But they do provide good fodder for speculation...

In yet another poll, the State Fair poll, respondents showed strong support for banning assault weapons as well as termination of state employees who intentionally allowed fraud to occur in a state program. Candidates have reported lots of conversations about fraud at the doors as well as an overall distaste for the political environment.

The entire Minnesota Legislature and several statewide offices are on the ballot. The Supreme Court blocked a Trump administration plan to restrict mail ballots for the midterm elections so mail-in ballots will be processed, business as usual, in Minnesota with absentee voting to begin September 18th.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Presented by:

Public Affairs Manager, Alex Carlson

Informational:

Building Projects & Groundbreaking

The construction projects at the St. Paul and Maple Grove facilities are about to get underway and MMCD would like to host a groundbreaking event at our St. Paul facility to kick-off the first stage of this project. The plan is to hold the groundbreaking event immediately after the October 28th Full Commission meeting as construction in St. Paul will have just gotten underway. We are seeking feedback from the Executive Committee on a few items related to this event including:

- Publicity Focus of the Project - Public health improvements, interagency collaboration (MMCD, MELSA, MESB), or a combination.
- Guest List - Suggestions for local leaders or interested parties to invite.
- Deliverables - What type of handouts or information should be shared related to the event.

This item is for discussion and does not require a vote.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Presented by:

Business Administrator Maria Mancilla-Diaz

Informational:

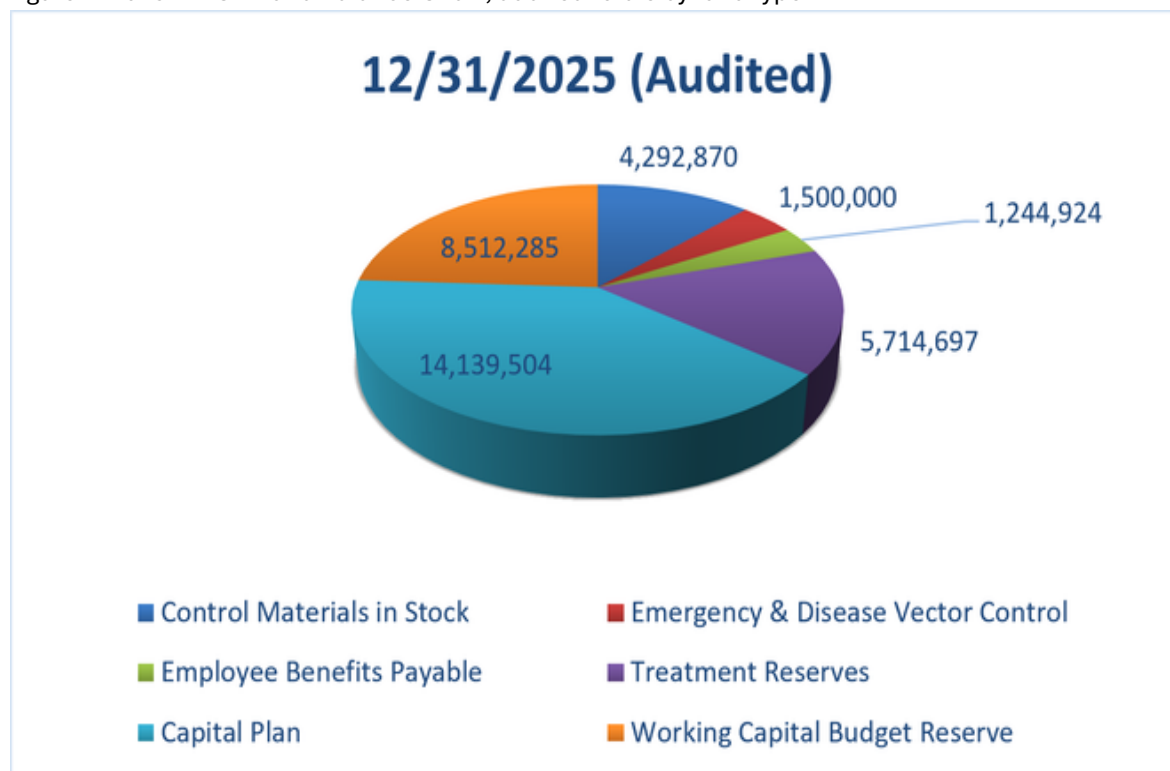
Fund Balance

Over the two-year planning horizon, total fund balance is projected to decrease by \$13.86 million, or approximately 39 percent. This change is attributable to planned capital investment rather than an operational shortfall.

The capital plan is the sole driver of this reduction: the capital-related fund balance is projected to decline from approximately \$14.14 million to approximately \$14,500 by the end of the planning period.

The projected drawdown does not reduce the District's core operational reserves. Funding designated for ongoing operations, treatment activities, and emergency response remains fully funded and available. These reserves continue to provide an important safety net for service continuity, treatment needs, and unforeseen circumstances.

Figure 1. 2025 MMCD Fund Balance Chart, audited totals by fund type.



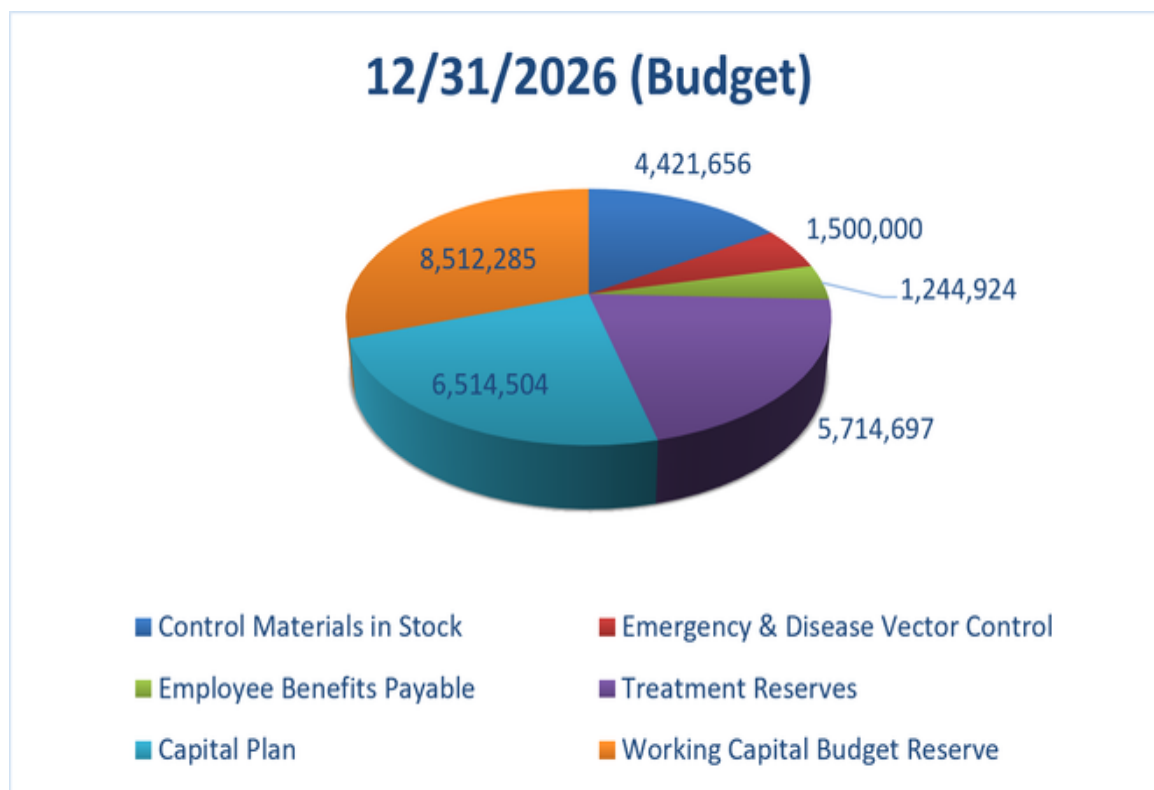


Figure 2. 2026 MMCD Fund Balance Chart, budgeted totals by fund type.

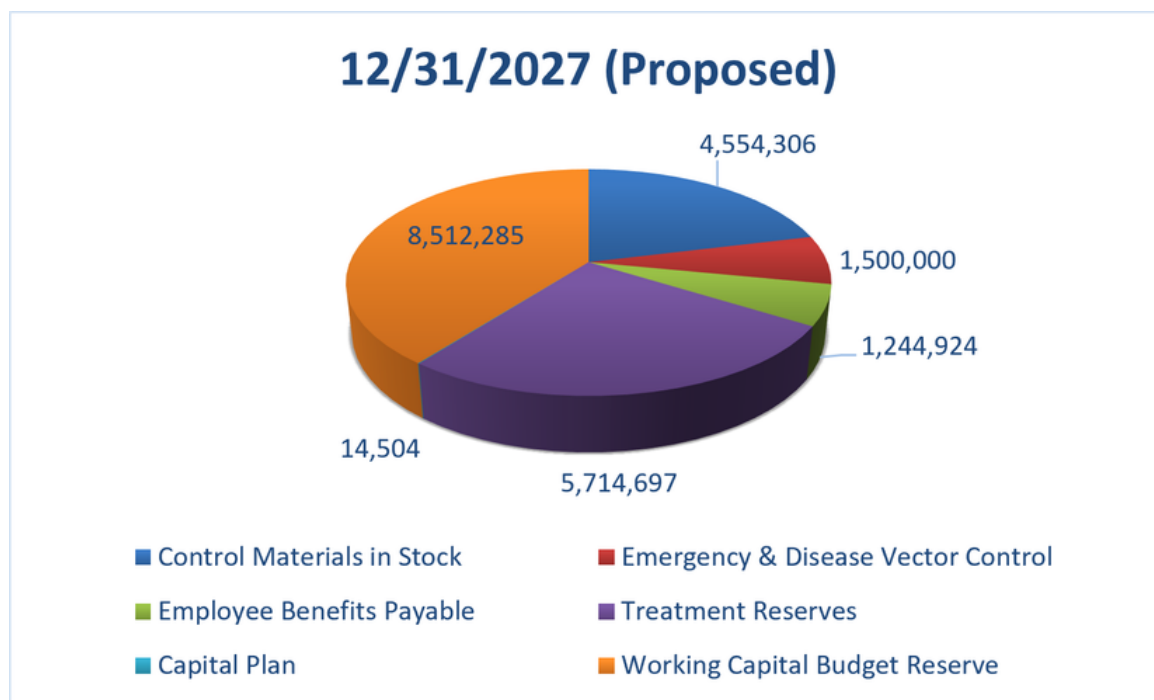


Figure 3. 2025 MMCD Fund Balance Chart, proposed totals by fund type.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Presented by:

Business Office Manager Jennifer Macchia

Human Resources Coordinator Parda Her

Informational:

Employee Engagement

MMCD is advancing a comprehensive organizational development strategy focused on strengthening leadership, workforce development, employee engagement, and organizational alignment. These efforts support the District's long-term strategic objectives by building the leadership and workforce capacity needed for sustainable growth and operational excellence. This topic originated as an information request at the August 2026 Commissioners' Meeting and was referred to the Executive Committee.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Requested by:

Business Administrator Maria Mancilla-Diaz

Action Requested:

Move Policy for Donation of Surplus Equipment to Full Commission

Background

The proposed policy establishes a consistent process for the District to identify surplus equipment, evaluate requests from eligible nonprofit organizations, protect the public interest, and document approved donations.

The policy provides that department supervisors will identify surplus equipment; the Business Administrator will determine fair market value and forward the list to the Commission; and the Commission will decide whether the property is eligible for donation. Before donation, the equipment must be considered for public auction, competitive sale, trade-in toward replacement, or transfer to another governmental unit.

The proposed policy also establishes approval thresholds, prohibits District employees and officials from taking possession of surplus equipment on behalf of an eligible organization, and requires donation records to be retained under the District's records-retention schedule.

Action Requested

Move to approve the proposed Policy for Donation of Surplus Equipment and recommend it to the full Commission for final approval.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Presented by:
Daniel Huff

Informational:
Executive Director's Report

End of Regular Season

The regular mosquito control season is winding down as most of our seasonal technicians return to school. While our helicopter and ground treatment acreage was lower this year, our drone program continued to expand. We have already treated more acres by drone this year than we did during all of 2025. This continued growth demonstrates the value of drones as another tool in our integrated pest management program.

Staff are now investigating cattail sites for larvae of *Coquilleltidia perturbans*, our cattail mosquito. These mosquitoes overwinter as larvae attached to roots beneath the ice before emerging as adults around the first week of July. We increased cattail treatments in both 2025 and 2026 and plan to continue this aggressive approach as part of the proposed expansion of service into Priority 2 areas. Increased treatment, combined with this summer's dry conditions, should help reduce cattail mosquito populations around next year's Independence Day holiday.

Construction Moving Forward

All construction contracts have now been signed. At the St. Paul facility, laboratory staff will move to temporary office space on Prior Avenue for the winter, and all staff will vacate the first floor before demolition begins in October.

Work to create additional workspace on the second floor is expected to begin in mid-October. Once the remodel is complete, all administrative staff will move to the second floor, and MELSA and laboratory staff will move into their new spaces on the first floor. This will allow us to fully utilize the St. Paul facility while providing the laboratory with the modernized space needed to support our surveillance, testing, and quality assurance programs.

We are planning a small “wall breaking” ceremony following the October Commission meeting to mark the start of the laboratory remodel. A larger ribbon-cutting event will be planned for the spring when construction is complete and the new laboratory is ready to open.

Construction of the new Maple Grove warehouse will most likely not begin until spring. Lead times for the precast concrete wall panels have delayed the anticipated construction schedule. We will continue coordinating with the contractor and design team and will provide updated timing as the schedule is finalized.

State Fair

Our Minnesota State Fair booth was again a success, welcoming nearly 12,000 visitors. The Fair continues to provide one of our best opportunities to engage directly with residents from throughout the District and across Minnesota about mosquito and tick control and the work of MMCD.

Looking Ahead to AMCA 2030

We are exploring the possibility of submitting a proposal to host the American Mosquito Control Association's annual meeting in Minneapolis in 2030. Hosting the national conference would provide an opportunity to showcase MMCD's programs and staff while bringing mosquito and vector control professionals from across the country to Minnesota.

Donation Policy

At the September meeting, Maria will present a new donation policy to the Executive Committee for review and approval. This policy is a needed addition to the District's updated Purchasing and Procurement Policy. The remaining purchase policy SOPs are currently being drafted and will be presented to the Committee for review and adoption.

The timing is particularly appropriate as we prepare for construction at the St. Paul facility. Decades of accumulated furniture, equipment, and other property must be removed before remodeling can begin. The new policy will provide clear guidance for responsibly disposing of usable District property through donation when it is not cost effective to sell or reuse elsewhere.

Upcoming Vacation

On a personal note, I will be taking an extended vacation before our next Commission meeting. My wife and I will be visiting our son in Morocco. We are both very excited to see him and explore the country. Please contact Maria if you need anything during my absence.

Field Operations

Mr. Jon Peterson, Assistant Director

Drought conditions continue to affect water levels in the wetlands. Although the northern area of the District received significant rainfall on September 8th, it was not enough to noticeably improve the conditions observed by staff in the field.

Over the past month, drought conditions have worsened in the eastern part of the metro area, where extreme drought conditions are now present. As shown in Figure 1, portions of the metro remain classified within extreme, severe, moderate, and abnormally dry drought categories, with the most severe conditions occurring in the eastern part of the District.

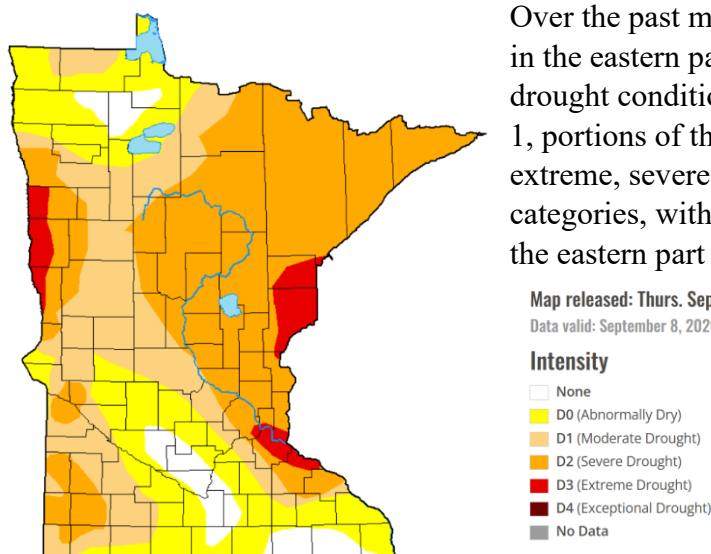


Figure 1. [Current drought conditions state of Minnesota](#)

Field work has now transitioned to cattail inspections. During September and October, field staff focus primarily on conducting these inspections, as seen in the photos below. The mosquitoes known as *Coquillettidia perturbans* overwinter in the larval stage, attached to the roots of cattails in wetland habitats. Wetlands are inspected in the fall and are primarily treated the following year in late May and early June. This year, we are treating approximately 12,000 acres by helicopter and drone using a product called Vectolex, which can be applied in the fall to control *C. perturbans* larvae. These treatments will help reduce the number of acres requiring treatment next spring.



Photo 1, 2, & 3. Seasonal technicians conduct cattail inspections in wetlands.

Over the last month, we have treated approximately 10,000 acres by helicopter. Overall, helicopter treatments in 2026 remain significantly lower than in 2025. If conditions remain unchanged, we expect to treat approximately 110,000 fewer acres in 2026 than in 2025.

We have helicopter cattail treatments scheduled for the week of September 21st. These treatments will help lessen the number of acres requiring cattail inspections in 2027. Figure 2 shows the total number of acres treated by helicopter over the past 10 years.

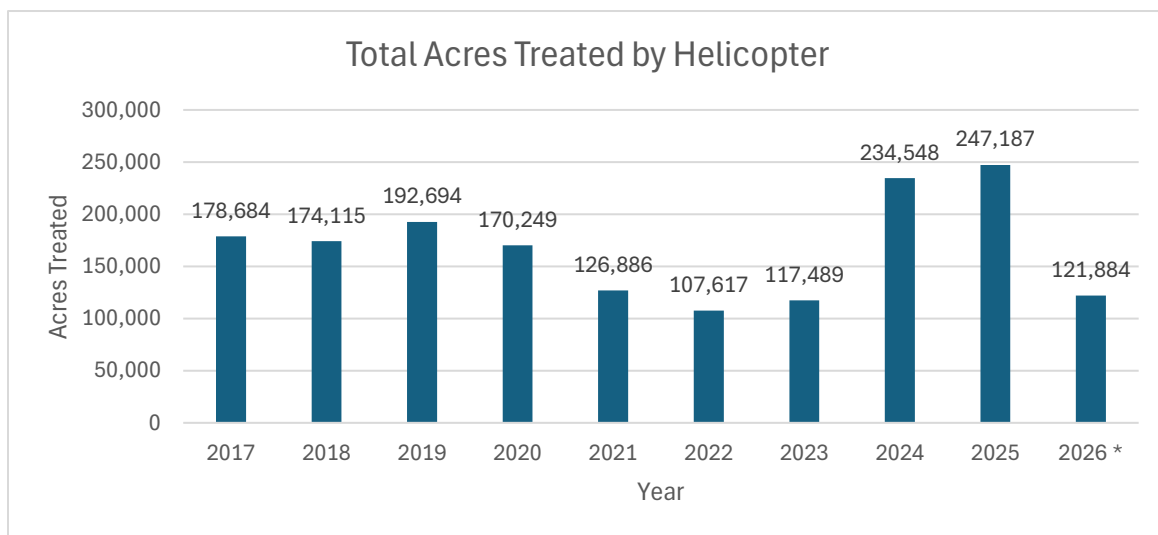


Figure 2. Total acres treated by helicopter per year (*2026 total is year to date).

Drone treatments have continued over the past month, further improving the efficiency and effectiveness of our operations. To date, we have treated more than 6,660 sites, totaling over 12,980 acres (Figure 3). We have already exceeded the total number of treatments and acres treated during all of 2025. Staff will continue these drone treatments through the first week of October. These efforts will target sites where staff have found cattail mosquitoes.

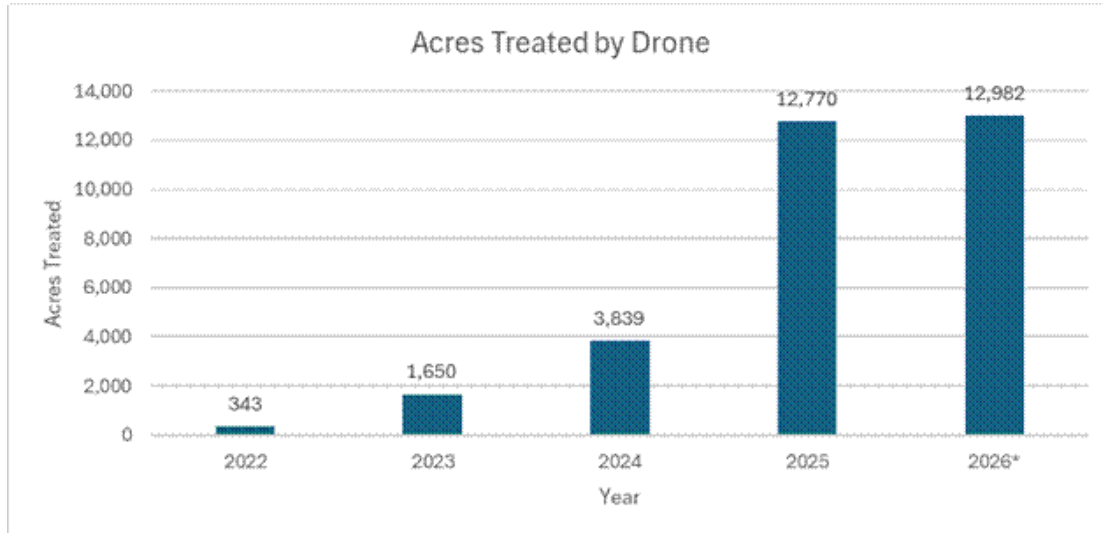


Figure 3. Total acres treated by drone per year (*2026 total is year to date)

Ground treatments have largely concluded for the 2026 season. The inspection and treatment of smaller sites remain an important component of our overall mosquito control operations. This season, staff have inspected more than 75,000 wetlands and structures and treated over 15,900 acres through ground operations. Figure 4 shows the total acreage treated through ground operations over the past ten years.

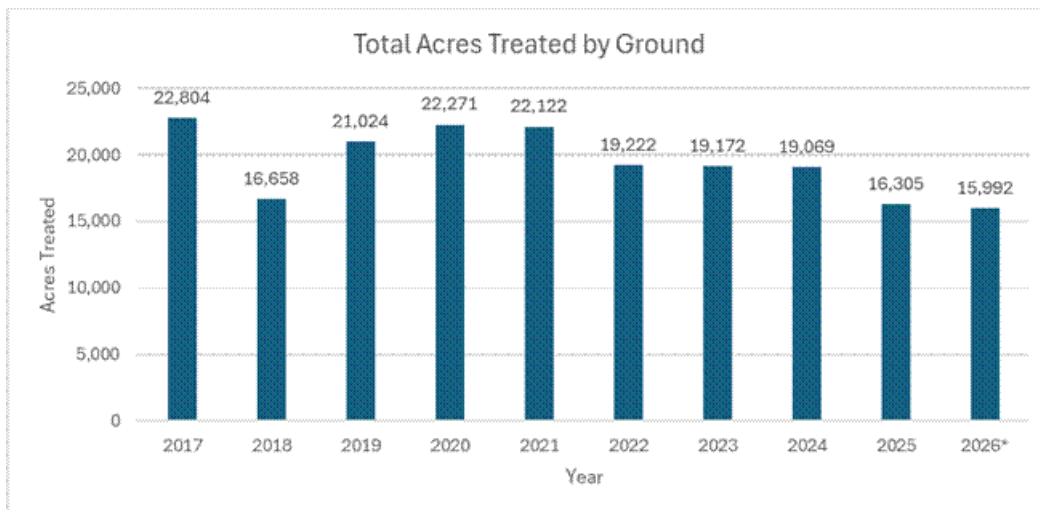


Figure 4. Total acres treated by ground per year (*2026 total is year to date)

Disease control activities will continue through September. These efforts include treating catch basins and structures, as well as collecting and removing tires. To date, field staff have been successful in keeping the number of disease-positive mosquito samples low. So far, we have treated 197,811 catch basins (Figure 5). This is fewer than last year because we implemented a new product, Sumilarv, which allows a single treatment to remain effective in a catch basin for the entire season. Three facilities successfully used Sumilarv this year. We will review the season's data and determine which facilities will utilize the product in 2027. The use of Sumilarv also supports improved larvicide rotation strategies, helping to reduce the potential for mosquitoes to develop resistance to the control products we use.

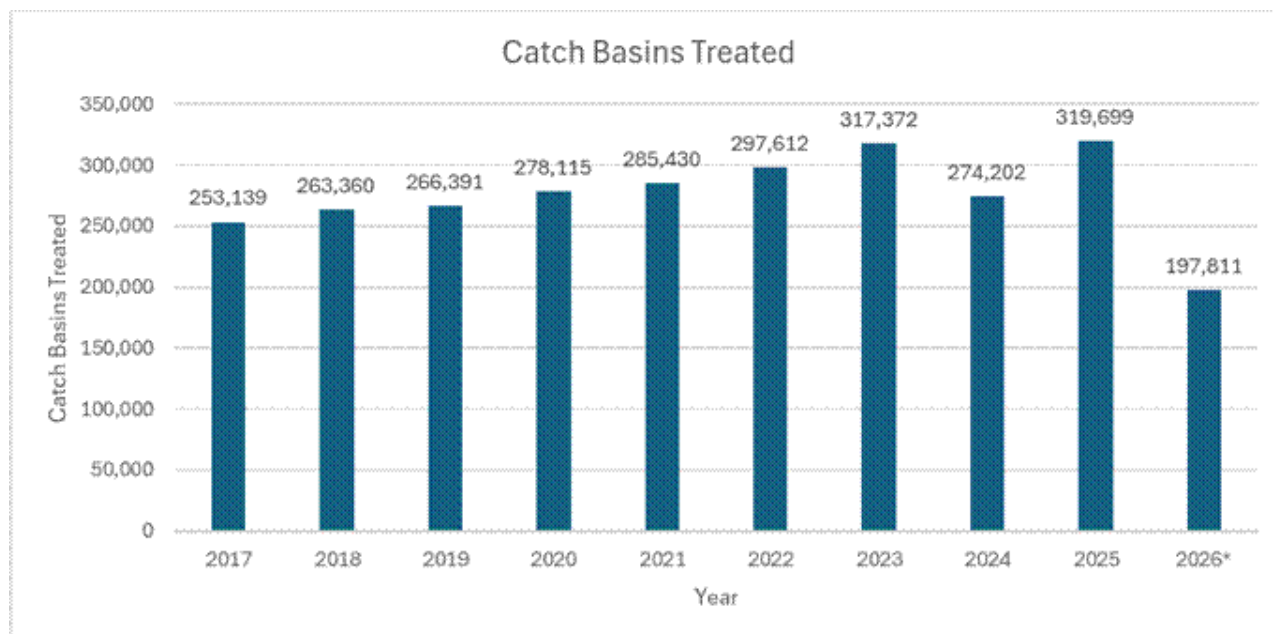


Figure 5. Total catch basins treated per year (*2026 total is year to date)

As we approach October, our seasonal staff will complete their work for the year. Full-time staff will then begin reviewing data collected during the 2026 season and planning for 2027 operations.

Entomology Lab

Dr. Scott Larson, District Entomologist

Most mosquitoes are only active when the air temperature is above 55 F, are most active at dusk, and will soon start laying eggs that will only hatch next year, which means we are almost finished with the mosquito season. The environment remains very dry, so there also aren't a lot of great habitats out there for mosquitoes. Here is a graph of our current population compared to the 10-year average (there were only 8.2 mosquitoes per trap which is the lowest measured abundance since mid-May):

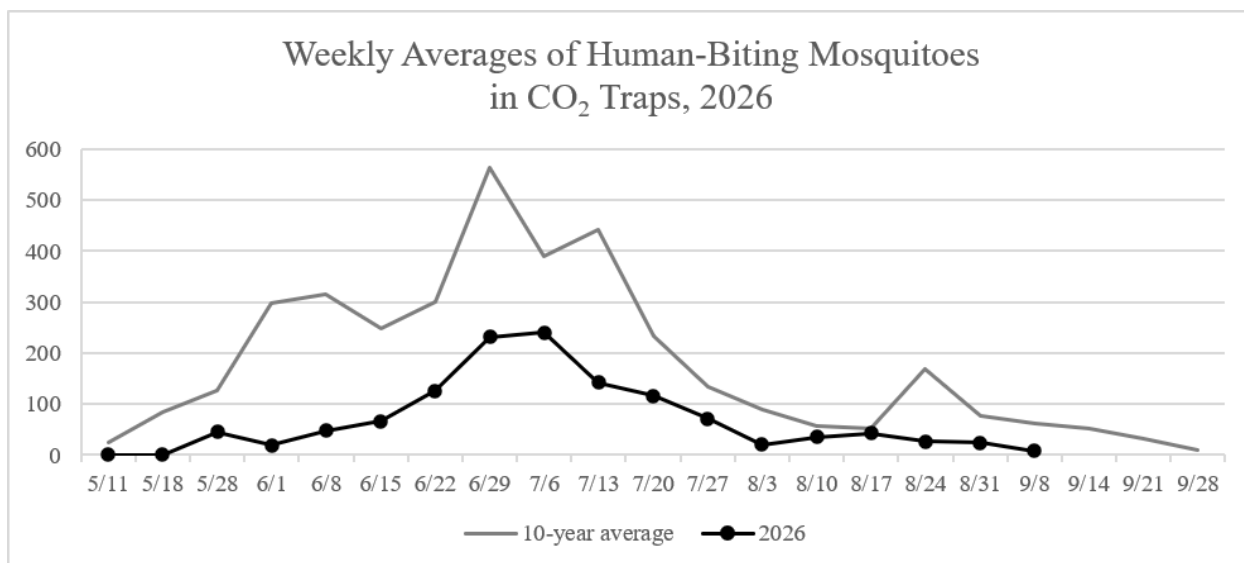


Figure 6. Table showing the 2026 Weekly Averages of Human-Biting Mosquitoes in CO2 Traps

The Entomology Laboratory is preparing for our exciting remodel by organizing our files and data, discarding unneeded materials, and boxing everything else up for our move. We are relocating to a temporary office space only ~2,000 feet from our main office. Six full-time staff will relocate there with the remaining first floor staff moving to either the second floor or to our various field offices.



Photo 4. Temporary laboratory staff office space.

The lab will be busy all winter identifying mosquito samples we saved from the season, working on our Mississippi River non-target study related to our black fly control program, and updating our Field Operations Manual among other tasks. Our tick surveillance will also continue through the month of October, and we are already prepared for the disruption to this surveillance that will occur from moving out of our main office.

After last year's record West Nile virus season, it was a relief to see so much less activity in 2026. However, the season isn't over yet and historically most human cases of WNV occur in August followed by September, so we should be prepared for additional human cases before winter. MMCD staff under the direction of Dr. Jordan Mandli are currently conducting late season control efforts to help prevent WNV transmission in our District. Below is a figure with the geographic distribution of 2025 WNV activity in the US followed by the 2026 data.

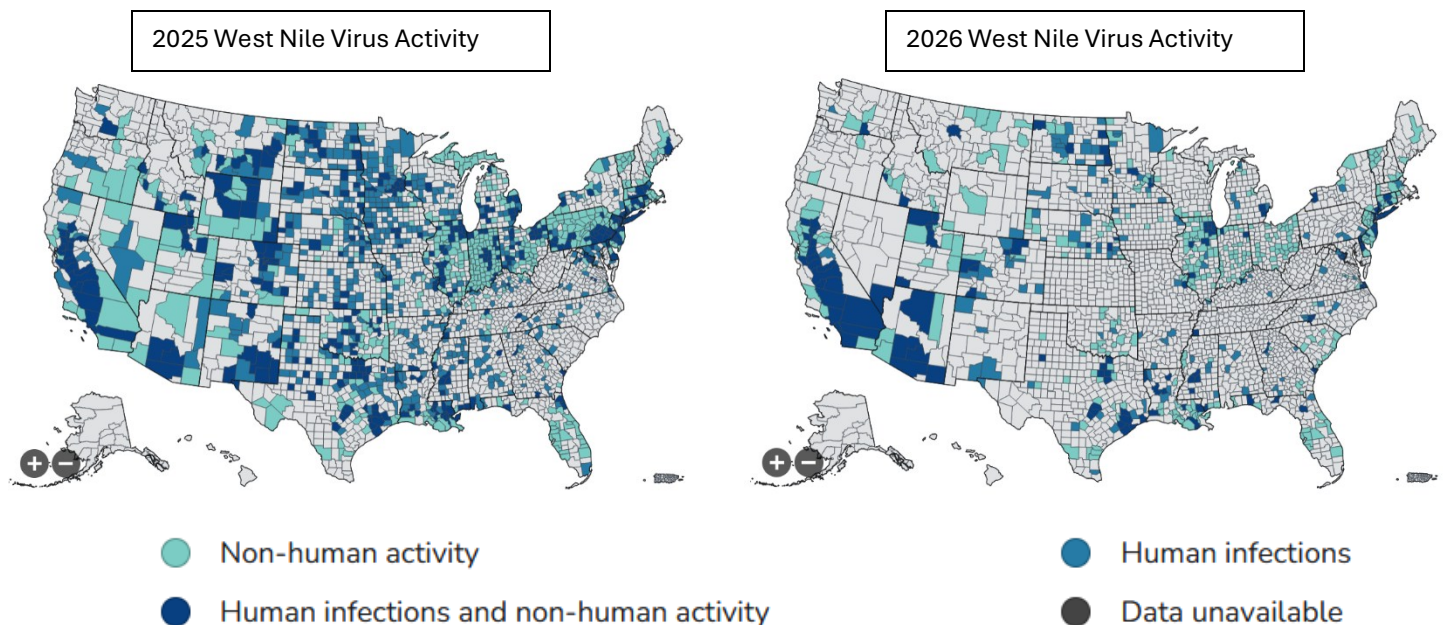


Figure 8. The 2025 and 2026 Geographic distributions of West Nile Virus activity in the United States.

Public Affairs

Alex Carlson, Public Affairs Manager

State Fair Success

The Minnesota State Fair was another smashing success in 2026! During the 12-day run of the Fair we had more than 12,737 people visit our booth including Commissioner Kevin Anderson (see below)! The booth was well represented by 65 different staff members who answered questions and gave away items. We also had a sign-up for visitors to request more

information, and we had 49 teachers sign up to receive information about school presentations and 15 job-seekers sign up to be notified when jobs are available!

The tick magnets and mosquito tattoos were featured as top freebies at the Fair in [a story by Duluth's ABC affiliate](#).

Thank you to the many staff who helped make the event a success and everyone who came by and visited our booth!



Photo 5. Commissioner Kevin Anderson talking to MMCD FOS Mikki Schweiger at the Fair booth.

Summer Event Season

The State Fair may be over, but MMCD's event season is far from it! We have several fall events in the coming weeks as we wind down our busy season. Come see us at one of these:

- August 27th – September 7th – Minnesota State Fair in St. Paul
- September 11th – Presentations at Twin Oaks Middle School in Prior Lake
- September 11th – Bark in the Park in Corcoran
- September 12th – Monarch Festival in Minneapolis
- September 12th – Osseo Lions Roar Parade in Osseo

- September 13th – Open Streets Cedar/Riverside in Minneapolis
- September 16th – Presentation for Community Connections in Crystal
- September 17th – Fall Round-Up Parade in North St. Paul
- September 19th – Vehicle Fair in Crystal

The Weekly Buzz! Newsletter

Our brand-new Weekly Update newsletter has been a hit this year with 997 subscribers as of this week. These Weekly Updates have led directly to media coverage, social media posts, and more to get the word out about MMCD.

[View the latest update here!](#)

Mosquitoes and Ticks in the News:

[Minnesota Ticks: Information on Minnesota's Tick Biodiversity](#) – Department of Entomology, University of Minnesota, September 3rd, 2026

- The U of M Department of Entomology has put together a thorough dashboard on the prevalence of ticks throughout Minnesota. MMCD is a featured contributor and listed on their “helpful links” at the bottom.

[Minnesota's first West Nile virus case of 2026 confirmed in Polk County horse](#) – Jeff Wald, Fox 9, August 16th, 2026

- The Minnesota Board of Animal Health reported that a horse in Polk County tested positive for West Nile virus after showing symptoms. There is a vaccine available to prevent the disease in horses.

[The State Parks with the Most Tick-Borne Illness](#) – Orion Cho, World Atlas, August 18th, 2026

- World Atlas compiled a list of the state parks from around the country where the risk of tick-borne disease is the highest. Two Minnesota parks crack the top 10 – Jay Cooke and Itasca.

[Ohio Boy Hospitalized for Weeks After Contracting Rare Mosquito-Borne Virus](#) – Rochelle Alleyne, WBNS News, September 8th, 2026

- MMCD spends significant time and resources trying to reduce the risk of La Crosse encephalitis and a recent story from Ohio is a good example of why. A young boy was diagnosed with La Crosse encephalitis and hospitalized for weeks.