

**Metropolitan
Mosquito Control District**

Executive Committee

May 27, 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, May 27, 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 March 18th, 2026 Executive Meeting Minutes*
5. Legislative Update – Kim Scott & Peg Larsen
6. Discussion to Form Sub-Committee for Tire-Related Activities
7. Discussion to Reschedule June Executive Meeting*
8. Preliminary Discussion of 2027 Budget
9. Executive Director’s Report
10. Other Issues and Announcements
11. 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 Executive Meeting: Wednesday, June 24, 2026 – 9:15a.m

Next Commission Meeting: Wednesday, July 22, 2026 – 9:15a.m.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Requested by:

Daniel Huff

Action Requested:

Approve Executive Meeting Minutes – March 18, 2026

March 18, 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
Alex Carlson, Public Affairs Manager
Monte Ebbesen, Public Affairs Assistant

Visitors:

Sam Ketchum, MMCD Legal Counsel
Kim Scott, MMCD Lobbyist
Peg Larsen, MMCD Lobbyist
Nathan Roisen, BWBR Project Leader
Jackie Peck, BWBR Senior Project Manager
Kirsten Nalan, BWBR Senior Architect

Note: Due to Commissioner Rena Moran’s absence, and Commissioner Lisa Anderson’s virtual attendance (due to an inability to travel at the time of the meeting), Commissioner Jeff Reinert acted as chair. Due to Commissioner Lisa Anderson’s virtual attendance, all votes were conducted by roll call.

Acting Chair Reinert called the meeting to order at 9:23am. The Commissioners present for the meeting were as follows: Commissioner Lisa Anderson (virtual), Commissioner Jeff Reinert, Commissioner Kevin Anderson, and Commissioner Dave Beer.

Commissioner Kevin Anderson moved to approve the agenda; Commissioner Lisa Anderson seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously. Commissioner Lisa Anderson moved to approve the consent agenda; Commissioner Kevin Anderson seconded the motion. The consent agenda was approved unanimously.

Commissioner Reinert invited MMCD Lobbyists Kim Scott and Peg Larsen to present their legislative update. Ms. Scott and Ms. Larsen shared with Commissioners their work on procuring bonding bills for

MMCD-related capital projects, including a bill for the construction of the Maple Grove facility sponsored by Senator Warren Limmer (District 37). Ms. Scott and Ms. Larsen also shared that they were in discussion with Senator Sandra Pappas (District 65) regarding other MMCD bonding needs and Representative Robert Bierman (District 56A) regarding possible tire legislation and action. Acting Chair Reinert thanked Ms. Scott and Ms. Larsen for their information and work.

Acting Chair Reinert opened the room for a motion to approve the Insurance Liability Waiver, waiving the statutory tort limits. Commissioner Kevin Anderson moved to approve; Commissioner Beer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Acting Chair Reinert invited Business Administrator Maria Mancilla-Diaz to introduce present members of the BWBR team, Nathan Roisen and Jackie Peck. Mr. Roisen provided board members an overview of the design timeline of the planned renovations to the District's Maple Grove facility. Ms. Peck presented digitally generated images that showed exterior features of the design and also addressed challenges that came up for her and Mr. Roisen's team. Executive Director Daniel Huff elaborated on the discovery that the current facility was located on a construction landfill, requiring correction action to the parcel's soil. Ultimately, the BWBR team estimated that renovations would cost \$4.9 million. Some discussion occurred regarding final costs of construction, as well as the likelihood of the city of the Maple Grove approving a building variance for the construction. Commissioner Reinert inquired about comparable figures, to which Mr. Roisen responded it was difficult to quantify due to Amazon and data center constructions; however, the current cost of \$250/sq ft was sensible.

Mr. Huff mentioned that in the future Savills would present to Commissioners about plans for the Plymouth facility. Mr. Huff explained that the Savills team suggested buying an existing building over constructing a new one, though location was key for the District.

Some further discussion occurred regarding the cost of the Maple Grove facility renovation. Commissioner Kevin Anderson suggested MMCD and BWBR staff look into Hennepin County's Environmental Response Fund for covering soil correction costs. Commissioner Lisa Anderson thanked Mr. Roisen and Ms. Peck for their work and encouraged all present to keep discussion open in the future.

Ms. Peck then presented on designs for the St. Paul office laboratory and lower-level renovation and expansion. Ms. Peck emphasized that the design presented was the result of extensive discussion with stakeholders. Mr. Huff noted that the renovation would allow for greater capacity in the St. Paul's entomology lab, new PCR testing, and space for planned MELSA offices. Commissioner Kevin Anderson and Commissioner Reinert asked if the estimate of \$4 million included furniture; Ms. Mancilla-Diaz and Ms. Peck responded that the number would be included in following presentations. Commissioner Beer asked Ms. Peck how many contractors would be involved due to the mix of office and laboratory space; Ms. Peck responded that the BWBR team was discussing that internally. All present Commissioners urged MMCD and BWBR staff to put the bid out as soon as possible.

Commissioner Kevin Anderson moved to approve the bids for the Maple Grove facility and St. Paul facility renovations; Commissioner Lisa Anderson seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Acting Chair Reinert invited MMCD Legal Counsel Sam Ketchum to address the next agenda item, approval of the Purchasing Policy. Mr. Ketchum explained to Commissioners that he and MMCD administrators were looking for big picture feedback on the drafted purchasing policy. He highlighted that the previous purchasing policy was too broad and that a new policy would serve as a standardized document to reference and follow current District purchasing practices. Commissioner Beer wished to clarify if the new policy would push DEI-conscious practices. Mr. Ketchum responded that the policy would be purely procedural. Ms. Mancilla-Diaz reiterated that the new policy was merely putting current practices into official documentation. Extensive discussion occurred regarding which bodies can approve of high-value contracts. Commissioners and MMCD staff agreed that the policy as it stood was acceptable, with the addition of a specification for what kinds of contracts would require approval.

Commissioner Kevin Anderson moved to recommend the approval of the purchasing policy to the full Commission; Commissioner Beer seconded. The recommendation was moved unanimously.

Due to time constraints, Commissioner Kevin Anderson moved to table agenda item 9, approval of Additional Merit Step for Field Operations Supervisors, and present for approval at the full Commission in April. Commissioner Reinert seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Huff then presented his Executive Director's report. Mr. Huff shared that there was a training ongoing at the St. Paul office, which included MELSA, MESB, and MMCD staff, highlighting the collaboration of the three agencies. Mr. Huff also mentioned the ongoing audit and his excitement about new hires. Mr. Huff shared that the first mosquito larvae and tick of the year had been found by field staff. He also expressed the District's emphasis on safety and positive public perception for the 2026 season. Lastly, he expressed frustration with the pesticide licensing authority in Minnesota.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38am

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Requested by:

Daniel Huff

Discussion:

Form a sub-committee to consult and advise on MMCD's tire program and

At the April Full Commission Meeting Commissioner Workman proposed putting together a sub-committee to discuss MMCD's approach to tires. Supporting the removal and recycling of waste tires is an important tool for reducing mosquito-borne disease, and the approach MMCD has taken to tire removal has shifted based on demand and staffing availability. Over the past several years, the demand that tire recycling has placed on MMCD resources has become prohibitive, so the District has taken steps to find alternatives to reduce waste tires including shifting our model for collecting tires, partnering with other government agencies, and lobbying for legislative changes.

A subcommittee would meet outside of MMCD's regular Commission or Executive Committee meetings and work with MMCD staff, lobbyists, and commissioners to pursue solutions to ease MMCD's tire recycling burden.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Requested by:
Daniel Huff

Discussion:
Reschedule June Executive Committee Meeting

Commissioner Jeff Reinert has proposed moving the June Executive Committee meeting date due to a conflict. Please consider one of the following options:

- Keep the current meeting date of Wednesday, June 24th at 9:15AM
- Move the meeting up to Wednesday, June 17th at 9:15AM
- Move the meeting back to Tuesday, June 30th at 9:15AM

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Presented by:

Maria Mancilla-Diaz

Informational:

Preliminary 2027 Budget

Staff will present the first draft of the 2027 budget for awareness and discussion, including the major planning assumptions used to develop the draft and an overview of anticipated P2 (Priority 2 area) growth.

No Board action is requested at this time. The presentation is intended to introduce the draft budget framework, identify the principal assumptions behind the draft, and provide an early opportunity for the Executive Committee to ask questions before the formal levy and budget approval process proceeds.

Next Steps

Following the Executive Meeting presentation, staff will continue refining the 2027 budget draft based on updated assumptions, available financial information, and Executive Committee feedback. Future presentations may include additional details regarding levy capacity, revenue projections, expenditure trends, P2 growth, capital needs, and reserve planning.

The budget will continue to move through the annual review process in advance of required levy certification and final budget consideration.

Conclusion

The Executive Meeting presentation will provide an early, high-level view of the first draft of the 2027 budget, including the assumptions used in preparing the draft and the anticipated impact of P2 growth. This discussion is intended to support awareness and understanding before later stages of the budget and levy process, and no formal action is requested at this time.

METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Presented by:
Daniel Huff

Informational:
Executive Director's Report

May is here, and MMCD's field operations are fully underway. The limited snowmelt, combined with relatively dry weather conditions, has reduced early-season mosquito development and provided additional opportunities to expand pre-hatch and cattail treatment activities. Despite the drier conditions, MMCD has already treated more than 46,000 acres—slightly ahead of this time last year.

Special thanks to Joe Elling, Field Operations Supervisor in Plymouth, for his continued leadership coordinating MMCD's drone program. Through Joe's efforts, the District now has nine drones deployed in the field. Thanks to the Supervisors around the District who have become drone pilots and oversee the drone crews in their area including: Trevor Novotny (Jordan), Angela Williams (Rosemount), Rosa Miller and John Lundquist (Andover), Shawn Partyka and Charlie Guenther (Maple Grove), and Gabby Grogen and John Kneip (Oakdale). We anticipate adding one additional drone this season while replacing one of our older units. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture recently conducted an inspection of MMCD's drone pesticide application program, and MMCD successfully passed the inspection.

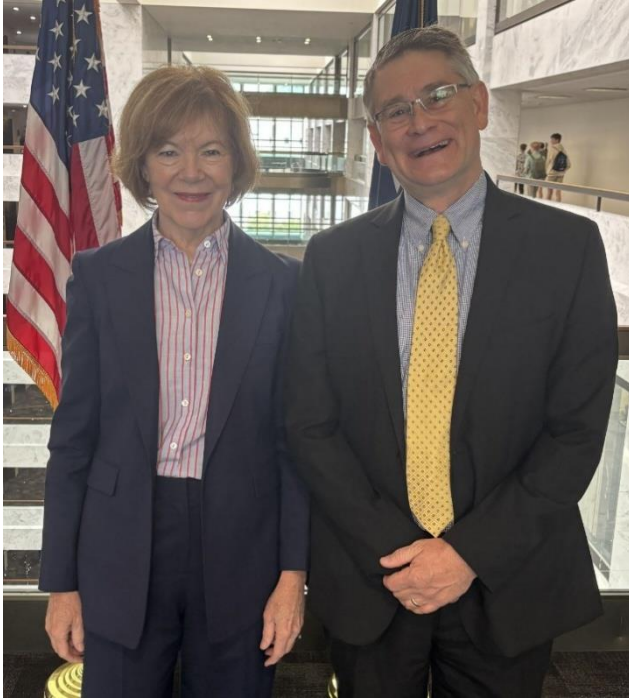
Staff continue to work closely with our architectural team to finalize bid documents for both the St. Paul laboratory remodel and the Maple Grove storage facility projects. We anticipate bringing construction bid recommendations to the Full Commission in July for approval. While these projects were not included in the final state bonding bill, we appreciate the support and advocacy provided by Kim and Peg throughout the legislative process. Based on current projections, MMCD's capital fund remains well-positioned to support both projects.

The District recently completed the 2025 financial audit process. MMCD received a clean audit with no findings. Special thanks to Maria, Jennifer, and Piper for their excellent work coordinating the audit and ensuring a smooth and successful process.

The District's first tire collection event of the season was held at the Andover facility and resulted in the collection of more than 250 tires. Additional collection events are scheduled throughout the summer, with a second round of events planned for the fall.

County	Spring Event	Fall Event
Anoka	Completed – May 13, Andover	TBD
Carver	June 3 – Jordan	August 26 – Jordan
Dakota	June 10 – Rosemount	September 1 – Rosemount
Hennepin	June 2 – Corcoran	TBD
Ramsey	May 28 – Maplewood	October 22 – Maplewood

County	Spring Event	Fall Event	
Scott	June 3 – Jordan	August 26 – Jordan	<i>*The October 22 Maplewood event is open to all District residents and will be held in the evening</i>
Washington	May 20 – Lake Elmo	October 22 – Maplewood	



I also had the opportunity to meet directly with Senator Smith during the visit.

I also attended the American Mosquito Control Association Washington Conference. During the visit, I met with staff from the offices of Tom Emmer, Kelly Morrison, Ilhan Omar, Amy Klobuchar, and Tina Smith to discuss MMCD's work protecting public health through mosquito and tick surveillance and control.



Kyle, one of our summer technicians working in the Maple Grove area, captured this amazing photo of an albino deer.

Departmental Updates

Field Operations

Jon Peterson, Assistant Director

Field operations have gotten off to a great start. New seasonal staff have been starting at MMCD every Monday for the past month, and we expect to be fully staffed by early June. This year, we have updated our orientation process so that all new staff report to our St. Paul facility on their first day. This change allows new hires to meet St. Paul staff and tour the lab before reporting to their assigned field facilities for the remainder of the season.

Currently, staff are focused on inspecting and treating wetlands. They report drier-than-usual conditions due to the lack of rain, with minimal larval activity observed at most sites. However, these conditions can change rapidly with precipitation. Current forecasts indicate that the metro area could receive 2 inches or more of rain this weekend. If that occurs, we will respond with helicopter treatments next week.

Helicopter treatments began on April 22. So far this season, we have treated 41,140 acres by helicopter, which is very similar to our 2025 total at this time of 40,018 acres. Cattail treatments will begin next week, with approximately 37,000 acres planned across the metro area. We may also have to respond to the forecasted rainfall this weekend, which would increase our total treated acreage. Figure 1 shows the total acres treated by helicopter over the past 10 years.

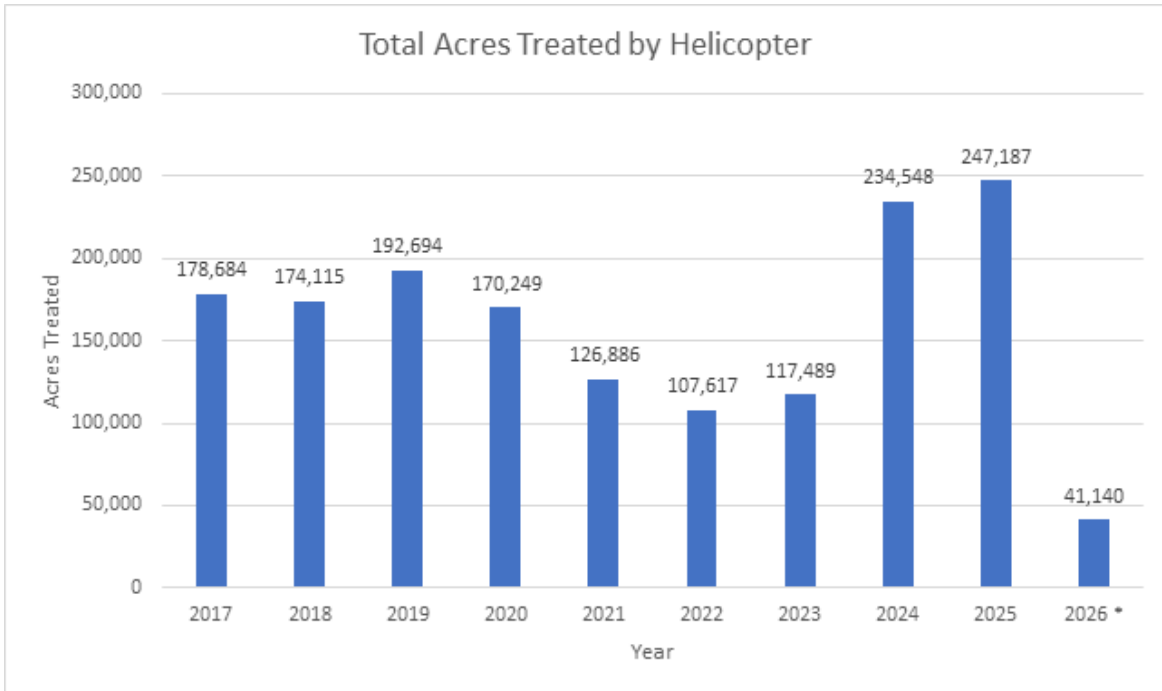


Figure 1. Total acres treated by helicopter per year (*2026 total is year to date).

This year, nine drones are treating wetlands—one more than in 2025. Three facilities operate two drones each, and the other three operate one each. Seasonal staff pilot the drones and are licensed by both the FAA and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Drone treatments began on April 15, about one week earlier than in 2025. So far this season, we have treated 1,637 acres, compared with 1,154 acres during the same period in 2025. Figure 2 shows total drone-treated acreage over the past five years.

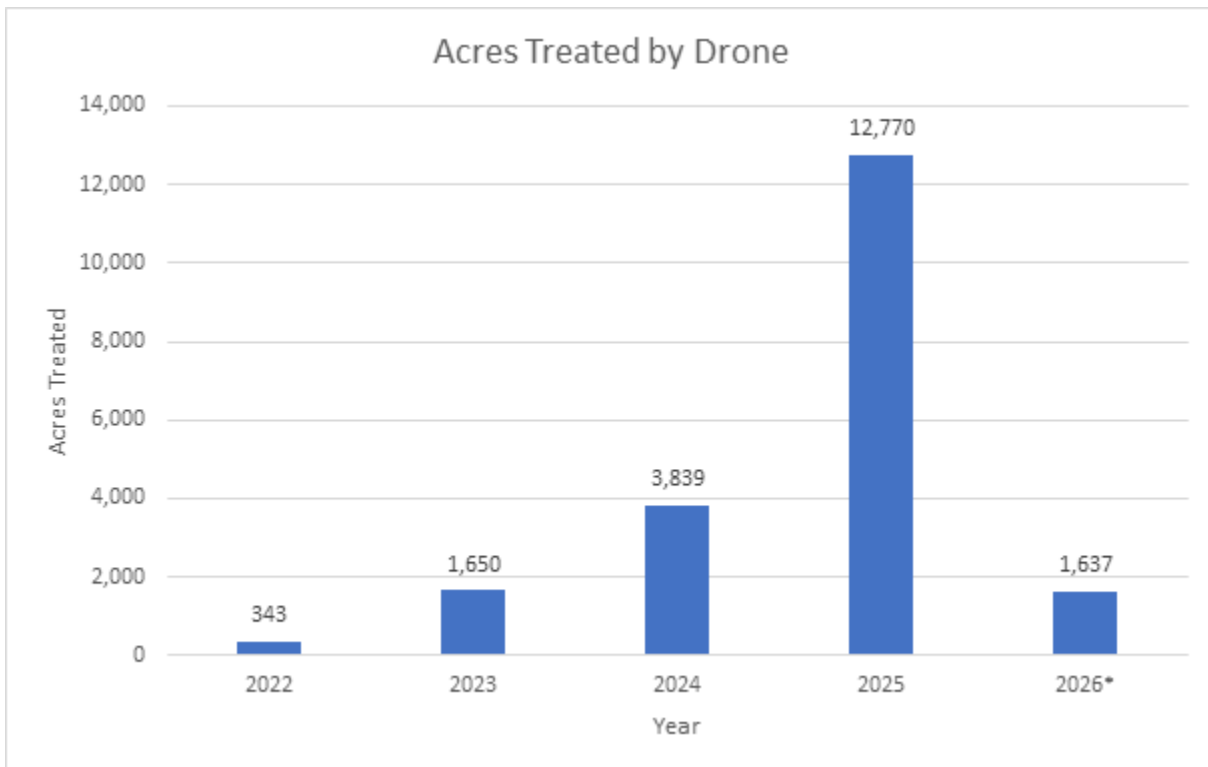


Figure 2. Total acres treated by drone per year (*2026 total is year to date)

Our field staff support all helicopter and drone operations by treating smaller sites on the ground. This demanding work involves navigating muddy terrain in hip waders, managing dense vegetation, and avoiding hidden obstacles that can pose tripping hazards. Ground treatments primarily occur in smaller wetlands located within neighborhoods and other developed areas near homes and businesses. So far this season, staff have treated 3,334 acres by ground, which is comparable to 2025 totals. Figure 3 shows the total acres treated by ground over the past five years.

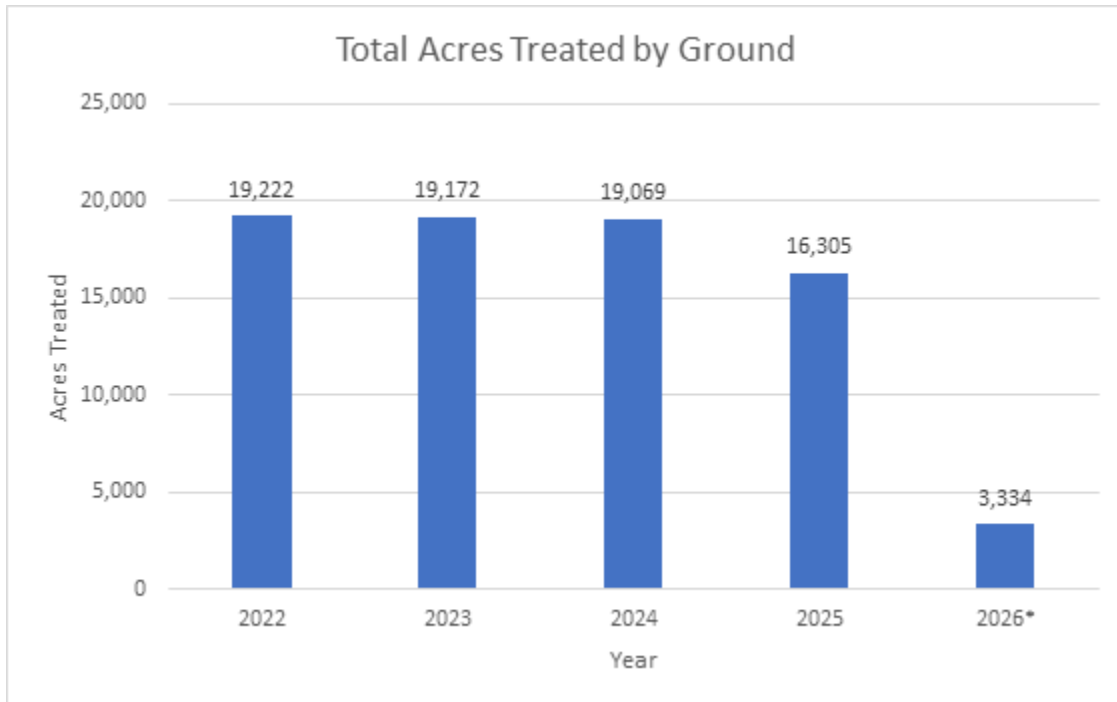


Figure 3. Total acres treated by ground per year (*2026 total is year to date)

Staff will continue to work hard throughout the season, responding to whatever the weather brings. Next month, we will begin our disease-control work, which will help protect the residents of the District. Below are some photos showcasing the great work we are doing this season.



Helicopter being loaded at our Anoka facility. Photo taken by Seasonal Public Affairs Assistant, Kylie Rich-Vetsch.



Oakdale staff treating a wetland.



Anoka Staff unloading tires at the tire collection event.



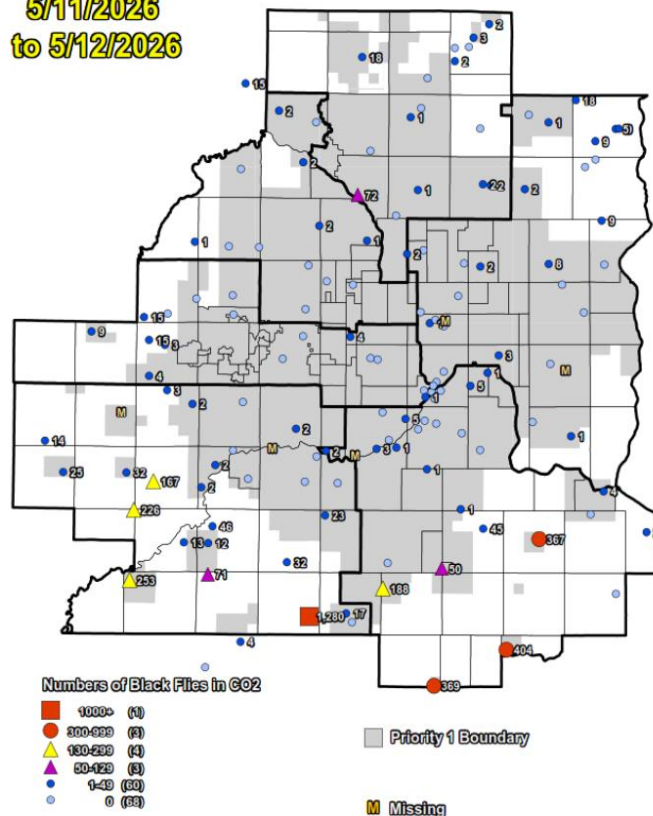
Jordan Facility treating the Minnesota River for black flies.

Entomology Laboratory

Dr. Scott Larson, District Entomologist

Mosquitoes, black flies, and ticks are all active at this time of year. On Monday, May 11, we began our adult mosquito surveillance network for the season. This includes running 149 CO₂-baited light traps to collect blood-feeding mosquitoes, 41 gravid traps to collect egg-laying mosquitoes, and ~80 staff that participate in our sweep net sampling which collects mosquitoes actively trying to bite humans. This early in the season mosquitoes are not yet abundant and the species we encounter are just a subset of those that we will see later in the summer. So far, the majority of adult mosquitoes collected are ones that overwintered as adults.

**CO₂ Trap
Black Fly
5/11/2026
to 5/12/2026**



Black flies coming from our large rivers and small streams have emerged and are becoming a nuisance. Treatments have already occurred, and more are likely in the near future. This map (left, [click here](#) for enlarged version) shows the current distribution of adult black flies which are mostly problematic in the southern part of the District but also around Coon Rapids.

Most of the vector crew and the tick technician started on May 11. The vector crew is under the supervision of Dr. Jordan Mandli and will be in charge of treating the catch basins and other stormwater structures in St. Paul to eliminate as many *Culex* mosquitoes as possible (the ones that are involved in West Nile virus transmission). Because St. Paul is an older city it has a very high density of catch basins that hold water and create mosquito habitat. Our vector crew uses bicycles to inspect and treat these structures. The vector crew will also be responsible for responding to any human disease cases, setting specific traps to collect WNV vectors, and supporting the field when they require additional assistance.

Public Affairs

Alex Carlson, Public Affairs Manager

The Weekly Buzz!

Now that the season is here, we have freshened up our weekly updates and re-titled them “The Weekly Buzz.” These weekly updates on mosquito and tick activity, MMCD control plans, and upcoming public events come out Mondays as a blog post and e-mail newsletter and later in the week as a video for social media.

Check out the latest Weekly Buzz and subscribe to get e-mails!

<https://mmcd.org/2026/05/18/weekly-update-may-18th-mosquito-numbers-low-in-first-week-of-surveillance/>

Tick and Mosquito Safety Kits

One of our new handouts this year are “Tick and Mosquito Safety Kits” which consist of a small pouch containing a tick remover key, DEET wipes, instructions to remove a tick, Tick ID guides, and more! We are going to be sending these out to people who request them throughout the season.



School Presentations

This is a busy time of year for school presentations. Here are some of the schools we will be visiting this spring:

- Dowling Elementary (Minneapolis)
- Robbinsdale Spanish Immersion Elementary (Robbinsdale)
- Noble Elementary (Robbinsdale)
- Linwood Elementary (Linwood Township)
- Raven Stream Elementary (New Prague)
- Anoka Middle School of the Arts (Anoka)

- Orono High School (Orono)

MMCD in the News



MMCD has been in the news lately! Here are some of the recent stories:

- [City Cast Twin Cities](#) - Podcast featuring MMCD Assistant Entomologist, Mir Bear-Johnson!
- [CBS Minnesota](#) - Tick season information with MMCD Vector Ecologist, Jordan Mandli!
- [KSTP Channel 5](#) - News about helicopter treatments beginning in the District.

Mosquitoes and Ticks in the News:

[How mosquitoes — and malaria — helped shape the whereabouts of early humankind](#) – Ari Daniel, NPR, April 23rd, 2026

- Evidence appears to show that early humans settled in areas to avoid malaria hot spots. In this way, mosquitoes literally changed the map and affected human progress from the very beginning.

[Alpha-Gal: The Sugar Humans Lost, and the Allergy That Found Us](#) – Melissa Mayer, Entomology Today, April 23rd, 2026

- A detailed article about Alpha-Gal syndrome, which is spread by the Lone Star Tick, and gives humans a dangerous allergy to mammal meat (beef, pork, lamb).

[NOAA research offers roadmap to improve West Nile forecasting and prevention](#) – NOAA Research, May 16, 2026

- Researchers, including some from the University of Minnesota, have been able to use historical weather data to improve predictions of West Nile virus activity.