



THE BUZZ

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The Buzz is a monthly newsletter used to disseminate important information about mosquito control in the City of Portsmouth.

Memorial Day has passed and summer is just around the corner. This spring has brought with it a fair amount of rain, and while the temperatures started warming up earlier, we did have a cool week or two to put us below the normal growing degree days. Growing degree days allows us to track the average temperature as it relates to the growth of plants and timing of activity of various insects. The heavy winds that we have seen this spring has also helped in some of the early mosquito activity as mosquitoes tend to be weak flyers and have to hunker down to avoid being swept away.

City crews have been steady on treating ditches, storm drains and any other standing water on public property for juvenile mosquitoes. The entire city has been gone through once, and a second sweep is in progress.

With the recent rains and warmer temperatures, we are expecting to see an increase in mosquito activity over the next few weeks. Surveillance traps are deployed throughout the city and are routinely checked. Once the thresholds for control are reached and the weather is clear, our trucks will be out in the neighborhoods.

