



Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department
 Herbicide, Larvicide and Mosquito Control
FACT SHEET

	Herbicide Application	Larvicide Application	Mosquito Fogging
Administration	Staff members licensed by MN Department of Agriculture	Staff members licensed by MN Department of Agriculture	Staff members licensed by MN Department of Agriculture
Chemicals	Speed Zone	BTI briquettes Summit Chemical Company	Masterline Kontrol 4-4
Application	Spray and/or granular	Briquette	Fog
Frequency	Once annually	Once annually	Once annually unless additional treatments are needed Spot spray as needed (wooded areas, special events)
Location(s)	Golf Course Parks	Public land Swampy, low areas Areas where water sits	Citywide Spot spray as needed (wooded areas, special events) Dry season - not necessary
Purpose	Reduce weeds Improve turf health	Reduce hatching ability of insects	Control adult mosquito population Reduce disease transmission

- City staff follow Minnesota Department of Agriculture licensing guidelines for mosquito control. Minnesota Department of Agriculture licensing is renewed biannually through the Minnesota Mosquito Control District.
- The City of Owatonna has three licensed applicators who are recertified through in-person classes every other year to learn best practices for treating mosquitos.
- The fogger is calibrated Sprayer is calibrated annually by Vesperis Corporation prior to each application to ensure the release of the proper amount of chemicals.
- Applications help limit diseases carried and damage caused by insects.
- The City Council approved Resolution 16-19 March 5, 2019 to protect pollinators. Since then, several steps have been taken and practices have been incorporated into routine operations to protect pollinator insects.
- The City of Owatonna provided an area for a pollinator garden in 2020 for the pollinator group to plant by Dartts Park off Mineral Springs Road.
- City staff planted pollinator flowers and grasses at Lake Kohlmier on the North Bank next to the trail. These are mowed occasionally, if needed, to control weeds.
- Fogging and herbicide applications are done as infrequently possible as needed.
- Conditions including wind speed and direction are carefully monitored before and during applications.

- Insecticides, herbicides and fungicides are used very selectively to protect the health of turf, trees, wildlife and other living beings.
- The primary treatment uses Larvicide to treat holding ponds and wet areas in Owatonna. This eliminates mosquitoes before they become adults and are able to fly. This results in a lower frequency of fogging needed.
- Fogging is done to reduce the adult mosquito population.
- Spraying frequency is done based on monitoring of mosquito populations which vary each year.
- Additional treatments are applied in some areas as needed.
- Spraying times are dependent on wind and other variables and done when pollinators are under cover at night, typically, an hour before dusk between 8 and 10 p.m. depending on conditions.
- Several areas at Brooktree Golf Course are left unmowed to invite pollinators. Special care is given during applications to avoid pollinator gardens and pollinator-friendly areas at Dartt's Park, Brooktree Golf Course and Lake Kohlmier.
- Most Owatonna residents prefer mosquitos be treated rather than discontinuing treatments.
- In 2024, larvicide treatment was completed in holding ponds and other wet areas in May. Due to recent heavy rainfall amounts, this treatment was repeated in June.