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Media Release

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August 6, 2010

City of Joliet Reminds Residents to: Be Cautious During Mosquito Season

The City of Joliet Public Works Department reminds residents to exercise caution outdoors due to the increased mosquito breeding conditions in the area.

Excessive rain and flooding throughout the area has created ideal conditions to result in significant numbers of floodwater mosquitoes emerging in the near future. Heavy rainfall throughout the area has produced ideal conditions for mosquito eggs to find water necessary to hatch, creating large broods of nuisance mosquitoes.

As a preventative measure to fight against mosquitoes, Clarke Mosquito Control will be spraying the entire City of Joliet beginning August 9, 2010.

Please note that floodwater mosquitoes are poor carriers of West Nile Virus, and do not pose significant health risks to residents, however, standing water from saturated areas are excellent breeding grounds for *Culex* mosquitoes – prime carriers of West Nile Virus.

Residents should avoid maintaining standing receptacles of water and report any stagnant/standing water situations. Residents should also monitor outdoor activity with appropriate action. Specific caution by children, elderly, impaired and pets should be taken.

Residents can report standing water situations to the **Clarke Mosquito Hotline at 800-942-2555. Reminder:** Existing ponds or water sites that have only risen in level DO NOT need to be reported. Only areas or sites that have been dry and traditionally do not hold water, but are now retaining water for 4 or more days should be reported.

The City of Joliet is the fourth largest city in the state of Illinois, located just 45 miles southwest of Chicago's Loop. Home to over 152,000 residents, in addition to thriving businesses and attractions, the City of Joliet is easily accessible by rail, auto and bus transit. A perfect place to live, work and play, Joliet is constantly striving to promote growth and diversity. For more information on Joliet visit www.visitjoliet.org or call 815.724.4000.

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