



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
*Executive Office of Energy and
Environmental Affairs*
Department of Agricultural Resources
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TO: West Nile Virus (WNV) Contact Person

FROM: Mark S. Buffone, Department of Agricultural Resources-Division of Crop and Pest Services, WNV Larvicide Training and Permit Program

DATE: Thursday, May 14, 2009

SUBJECT: Closing of DAR WNV Permit Program after the 2009 mosquito season

On behalf of the Director of the Division of Crop and Pest Services, Lee Corte-Real, I am notifying you that the current West Nile Virus permit program will close after the 2009 mosquito season.

The current WNV permit program was initiated and implemented to respond to an emergency need when West Nile virus first arrived in Massachusetts some 10 years ago. At this point in time, there is no longer an emergency need to continue the issuance of permits.

In fact, there is in place an established pesticide licensure program pursuant to the state pesticide control act that satisfies the need to legally use pesticides in the Commonwealth. Individuals who are required or have a need to use pesticides legally including catch basin treatments will need to become fully licensed pursuant to state pesticide law and regulations.

This advanced notification provides ample time and opportunity to insure that you will have personnel that are fully licensed prior to the 2010 mosquito season if necessary. The Department's website provides all of the information necessary to successfully meet the Department's pesticide requirements. Go to the following link for more details.
<http://www.mass.gov/agr/pesticides/licensing/index.htm>.

Finally, I have enclosed the 2009 permits and other information that should be given to those individuals using larvicides as documented in our WNV data base for the upcoming mosquito control season.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 617-626-1777.

Thank you for your cooperation.