



# MEDIA RELEASE

KNOX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sept. 8, 2017

## Several areas added to mosquito spray schedule

*Knoxville, Tenn.* – The latest lab report has confirmed the presence of West Nile virus (WNV) in Culex mosquitoes in the Halls area of North Knox County and the West Kingston Pike area of West Knox County. In addition, the Deadrick Road area in South Knox County, the Farragut Crossing area of Farragut and the Turkey Creek area of West Knoxville have each had a crow or jay test positive for WNV. Following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) protocol, the Knox County Health Department (KCHD) will spray for mosquitoes in these areas on **Tuesday, Sept. 12 and Thursday, Sept. 14 between 8:45 p.m. and 2 a.m.**, weather permitting, to reduce the Culex mosquito population and the risk of WNV spreading to humans. Signs will be posted in the affected neighborhoods to alert residents, who are asked to stay inside during spraying and keep pets inside or in the backyard. Spray area details are below, maps are included.

“Crows and jays do not transmit West Nile to humans, but they get it from mosquitoes just like we do,” said KCHD Environmental Health Director Ronnie Nease. “Like mosquitoes, crows and jays are part of the CDC protocol for West Nile virus surveillance. They are considered a sentinel or an indicator of the presence of the virus in an area; it’s not uncommon for us to have a West Nile-positive bird.”

To prevent mosquito bites and reduce mosquito habitats, officials recommend the following:

- Apply repellants to skin often; these can include lotions, liquids or sprays. The CDC recommends the use of repellants that contain DEET, Picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or para-menthane 3, 8-diol, and IR3535. The duration of protection varies by repellant; read labels on products to determine when reapplications are necessary for optimal protection.
- Wear long, loose and light-colored shirts and pants and wear socks.
- Treat clothing with permethrin or purchase pretreated permethrin clothing.
- Dispose of, regularly empty, or turn over any water-holding containers on your property such as tires, cans, flower pots, children’s toys or trash cans.
- To prevent breeding in large water-holding devices, including bird baths or garden pools, use larvicides such as mosquito torpedoes or mosquito dunks. If used properly, larvicides will not harm animals.
- More tips can be found at: <http://www.knoxcounty.org/health/mosquitoes.php>

“While there is no evidence that a person can get infected from handling live or dead infected birds, it’s important to always avoid bare-hand contact with any dead animal,” added Nease. “If you must pick up a dead bird, use gloves or an inverted plastic bag to place the bird in a garbage bag.”



## **Areas scheduled for treatment on Tuesday, Sept. 12:**

### Farragut Crossing spray area:

Farragut Crossing; Belleaire Drive; Vista Trail; Mountain View Road; Crestview Road; Bantry Lane; Harrow Road to Midhurst Drive; Midhurst Drive from East Kingsgate Road to Bantry Lane; East Kingsgate Road; Peterson Road; Byron Lane; Keats Lane; Dorcee Lane and Newgate Drive will be treated Tuesday, Sept. 12, weather permitting. Follow-up spraying is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 26.

### Halls spray area:

Homestead Drive; Hallbrook Road; Arlie Drive; Zirkle Drive; Marshall Drive; a portion of Old Maynardville Pike; and the areas around Halls Middle School and Halls High School will be treated Tuesday, Sept. 12, weather permitting. Follow-up spraying is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 26.

### Turkey Creek spray area:

Gates Mill Drive; Glen Willow Drive; Lake Meadow Drive; Briar Gates Lane from Glen Iris Lane to Gates Mill Drive; Bancroft Lane; Glen Iris Lane; Woodland Trace Drive; Timberhill Court; Matthews Cove Lane; and Fords Cove Lane will be treated Tuesday, Sept. 12, weather permitting. Follow-up spraying is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 26.

### West Kingston Pike spray area:

Hayfield Road; Crowfield Road; all roads connected to Crowfield Road; Triplett Lane; Redmont Lane; Highlander Way; Franklin Hills Boulevard; Windemeer Lane; Hampton Court; Capital Drive; Fox Road to Capital Drive; Perimeter Park Road; Sherway Road; and Sherlake Lane will be treated on Tuesday, Sept. 12, weather permitting. Follow-up spraying is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 26, weather permitting.

## **Area scheduled for treatment on Thursday, Sept. 14:**

### Deadrick Road spray area:

An eastern portion of Deadrick Road; a section of Rollen Road north of Sevierville Pike; and part of Sevierville Pike east of Rollen Road will be treated Thursday, Sept. 14, weather permitting. Follow-up spraying is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 28.

The South Knox County treatment is in addition to follow-up sprayings previously scheduled for Sept. 14 in the West Hills and Chapman Highway areas. A complete schedule is available at [knoxcounty.org/health](http://knoxcounty.org/health). Any decisions to reschedule sprayings based on weather conditions, such as rain, low temperatures or high winds, will be made at the time of spraying and will be announced the following morning.

To reduce the risk of mosquito-borne disease, KCHD conducts a West Nile virus control program during the summer and fall months. As the weather warms each spring, public health professionals begin a weekly process of trapping and testing mosquitoes for WNV, a mosquito-borne disease which can infect humans, horses and birds. From March until the first frost, KCHD also uses larvicides in areas with standing water to prevent mosquito proliferation. These efforts are in addition to KCHD's work to assess and monitor for other mosquito-borne illnesses. More information is available by calling 865-215-5200 or visiting [www.knoxcounty.org/health](http://www.knoxcounty.org/health).

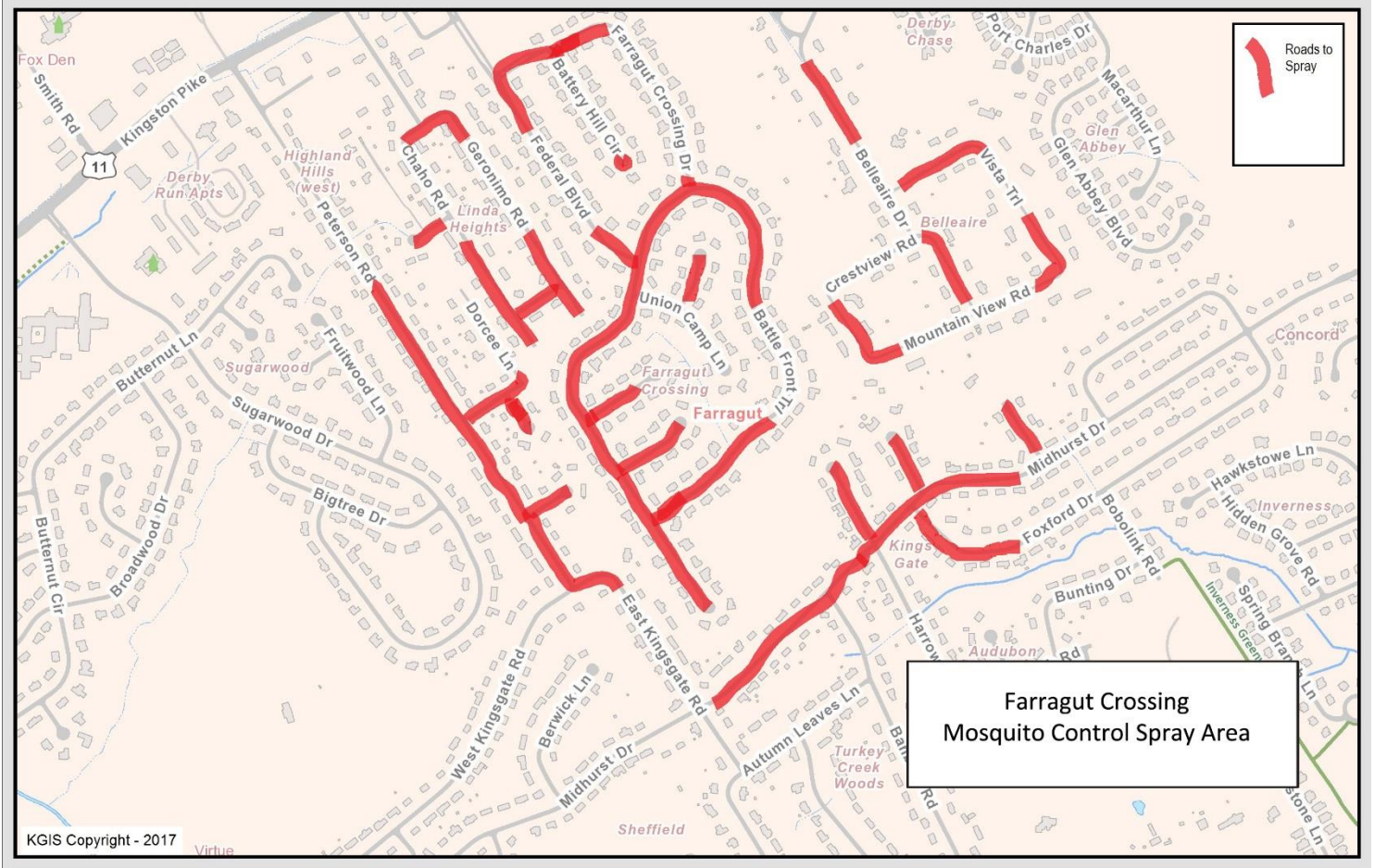
## **About Knox County Health Department:**

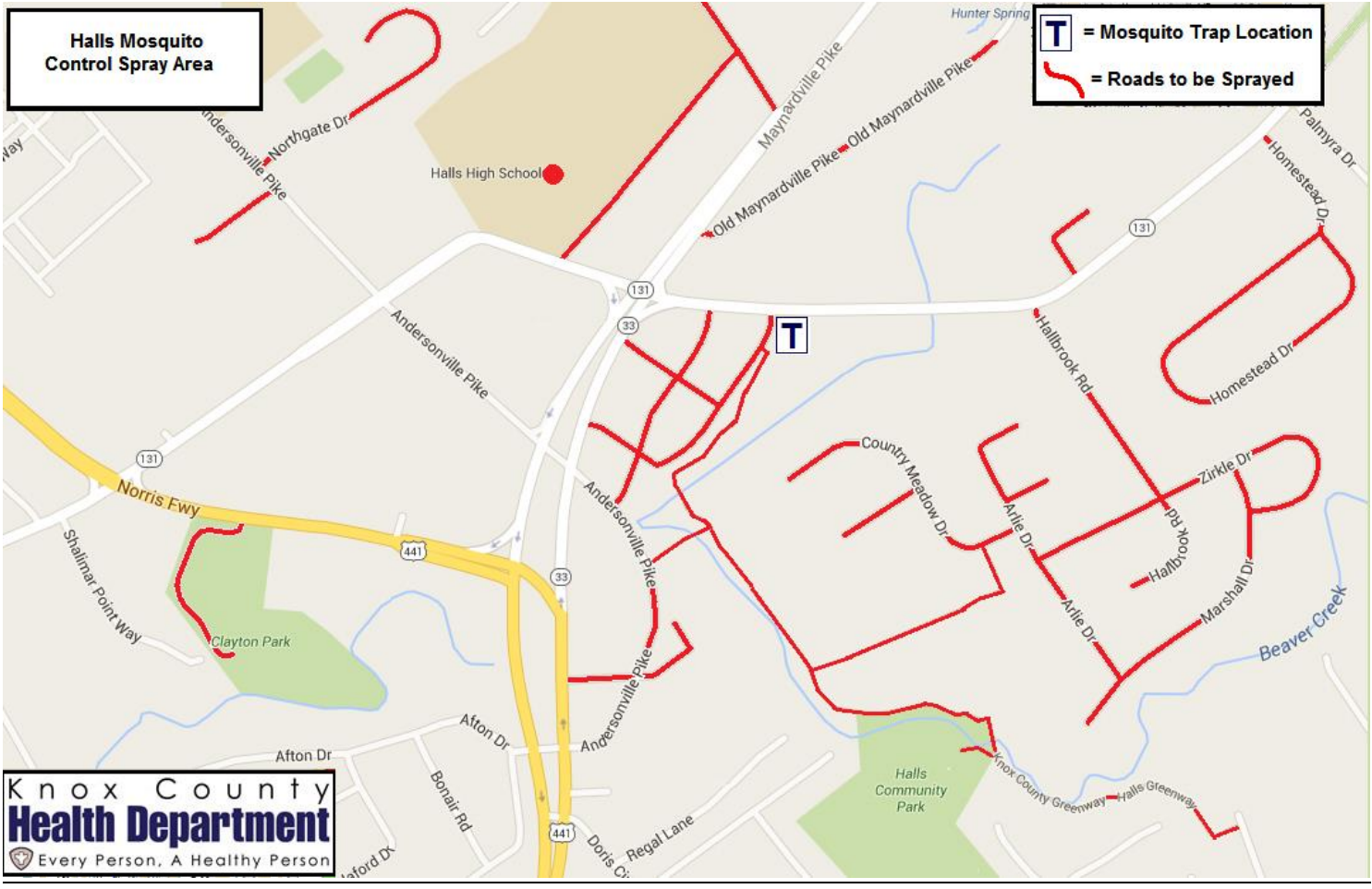
The Knox County Health Department (KCHD) is a governmental agency dedicated to making every person a healthy person. As the first health department in Tennessee to achieve national accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board, KCHD's mission is to encourage, promote and assure the development of an active, healthy community through innovative public health practices. The organization conducts disease surveillance, prevention and control; emergency preparedness; nutrition and physical activity promotion; tobacco use prevention; health equity promotion; immunizations; and much more. For more information, visit [www.knoxcounty.org/health](http://www.knoxcounty.org/health).

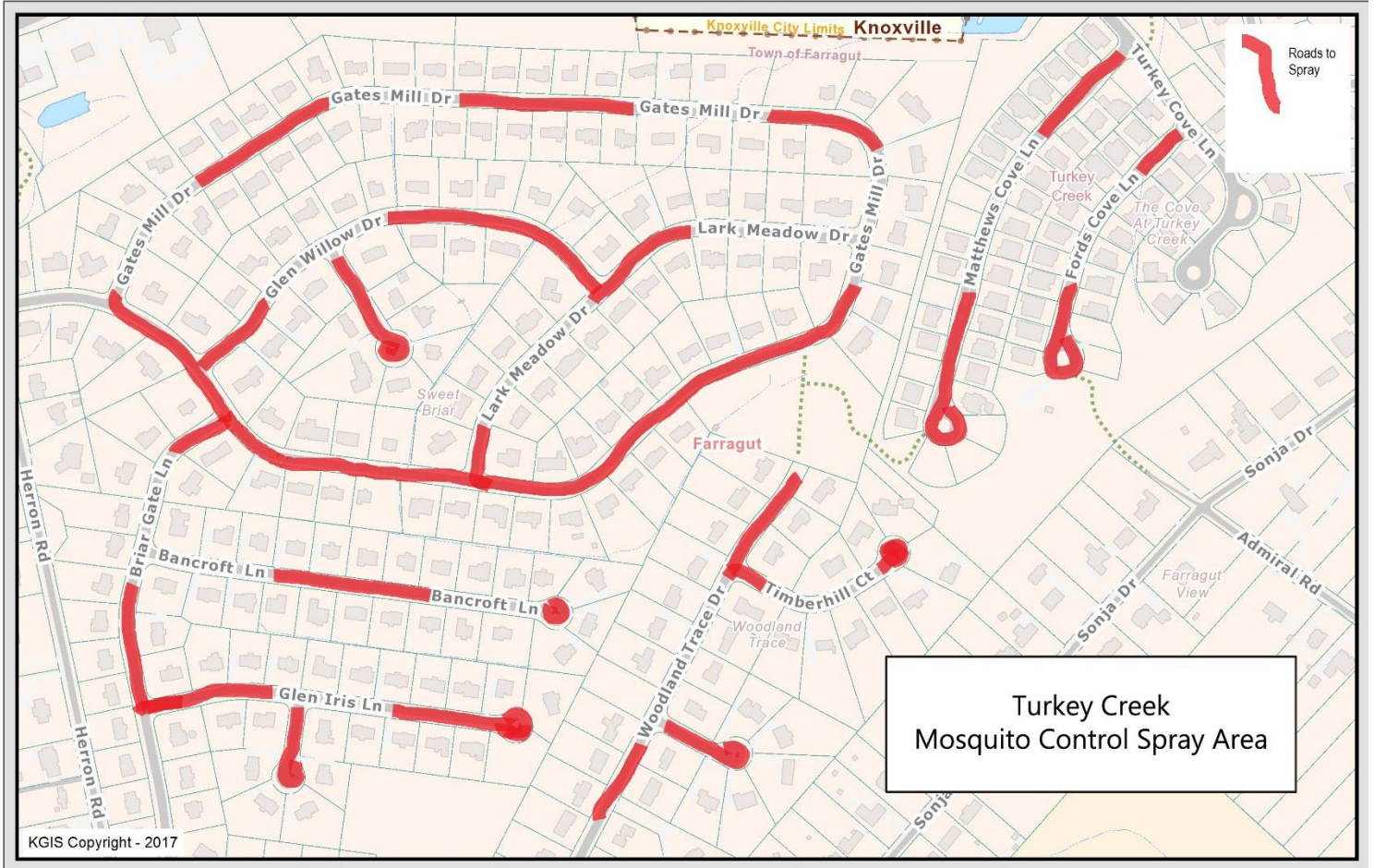
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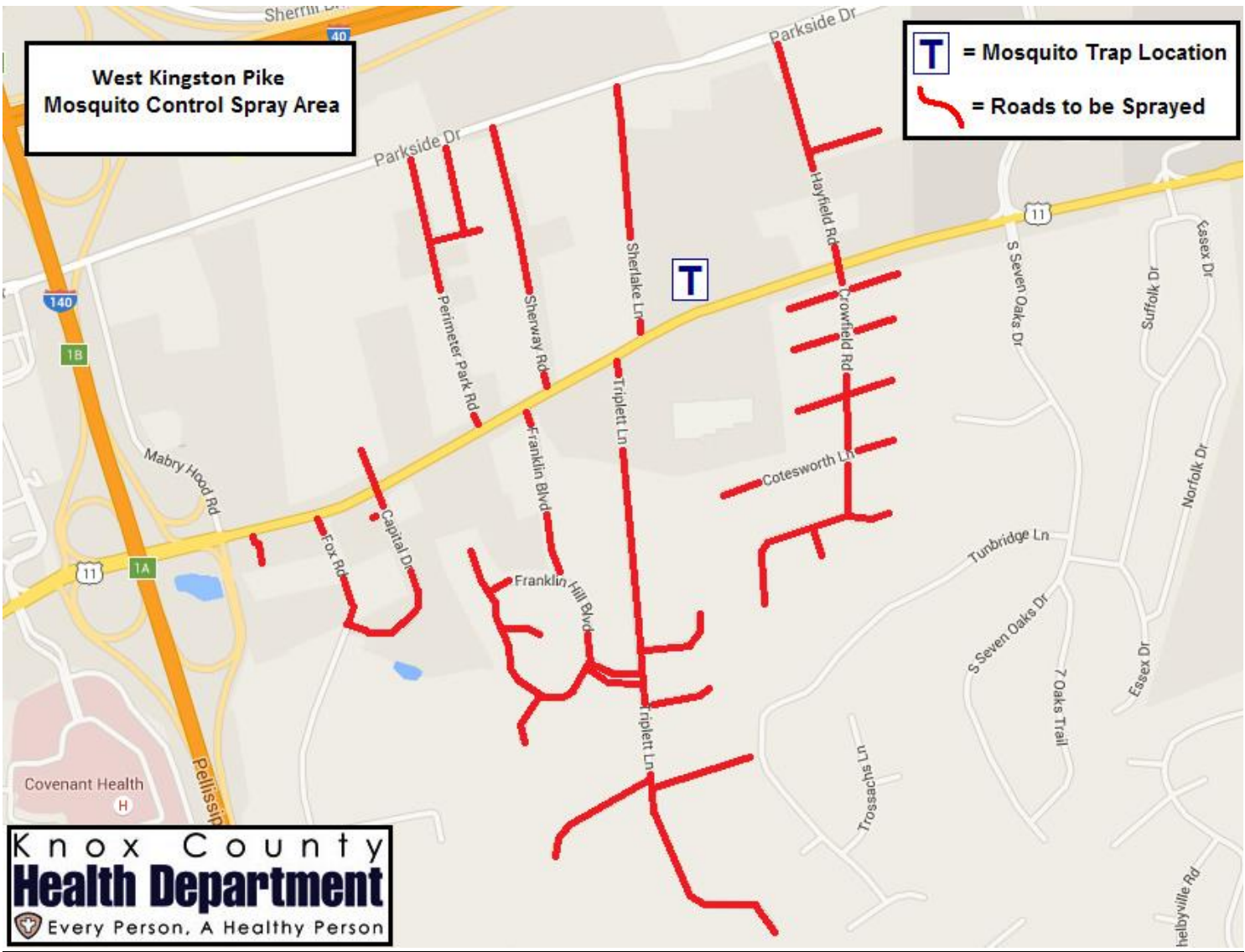


Areas scheduled for spraying Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2017, between 8:45 p.m. and 2 a.m.:









Area scheduled for spraying Thursday, Sept. 14, 2017, between 8:45 p.m. and 2 a.m.:

