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Landowners can purchase larvicide to battle West Nile this summer

Arapahoe County landowners with properties of one-acre or more who want to battle the West Nile virus this season have an affordable alternative to control mosquitoes and other pests this summer.

The West Arapahoe Conservation District, in cooperation with Arapahoe County and Tri-County Health Department, is offering landowners VectoBac G[®] and Bactimos[®] Bti larvicide - environmentally friendly bacteria that kill mosquito larvae before they hatch. Both products also are effective in controlling black flies, midge and filter fly larvae.

VectoBac G is a granular substance available in 40-pound bags for \$64. The granules are applied every seven to 10 days along the fringes of pools or creeks where the water is still, and in marshy or low-lying areas that retain water. Application rates vary from 2 ½ to 5 pounds per acre (8 to 16 granules per square foot), depending on breeding habitat. One bag should be sufficient for seasonal larvicide application along a 660-foot stretch of a creek.

Bactimos is a donut-shaped dunk that is packaged in quantities of 20 for \$13.08. The dunks offer sustained release of larvicide suitable for stock tanks or stagnant ponds. One dunk provides effective mosquito control for 100 square feet of water for about 21 days.

To order VectoBac or Bactimos, download a payment form from the Arapahoe County web site at www.co.arapahoe.co.us or Tri-County Health Department website at www.tchd.org. Payment must accompany order and be received by April 29. Make checks payable to the West Arapahoe Conservation District, 21901 E. Hampden Ave., Aurora, CO 80013. Larvicide orders will be available for pickup between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., May 14 and May 15 only. Plan ahead, this will be the only time West Arapahoe Conservation District will offer larvicide this season.

For more information about the larvicide program, call Tri-County Health at 303-761-1340. For more information about West Nile virus and what is being done to combat it in Arapahoe County and Colorado, visit Arapahoe County's web site at www.co.arapahoe.co.us.
