2/10/2022

Leyden Residents

It's that time of year again. Fortunately, the state of Massachusetts has a mosquito task force that is gathering information on the opinions regarding aerial mosquito spraying. They will determine the process for opting out for individual towns. The Leyden Board of Health filled out the extensive opt out form in spring 2021 that was approved for last year. It must be done yearly. The towns that were denied an opt out last year, had a higher risk level for mosquito borne diseases.

So.... I am asking...what do you think? I want your ideas and opinions. But, this is a massive town wide effort to decrease the numbers of disease carrying mosquitoes. Everyone needs to contribute to the effort. For instance, you can do everything but it does no good if your neighbor leaves buckets of standing water in which mosquitoes can then breed. It has to be a town effort.

The mosquito adulticides used in aerial spraying cause many problems. First, the death of our bees and pollinators. Do you have bees...this would affect you. If you farm organically, this would affect you. The chemicals accumulate in our food chain. It kills the pollinators and renders you no longer organic.If you have any chemical sensitivities, this would affect you. If you have small children playing outside, this would affect you. If you have pets or livestock, the adulticide would affect them.

The town of Leyden had a positive West Nile mosquito last summer. Luckily, we did not get a human transmission. But with the positive mosquitoes , comes the risk of someone getting sick from a mosquito bite.

Please email me with your thoughts and opinions on aerial mosquito spraying. They will be presented with the opt out application if we go that way.

We need to start decreasing our reliance on chemicals. The effects are catastrophic to our pollinators and our long term quality of life.

Thank you for your time and opinions.

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