

ALAN BOLDS

PRESIDENT, WHEATON MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

SUMMARY OF SERVICE, 2012-PRESENT

The Wheaton Mosquito Abatement District (WMAD) provides mosquito control services to Wheaton and portions of neighboring townships. I have served as trustee since 2012 and as president since 2016. My current term expires December 1, 2023. I am applying for reappointment.

2012: Appointed by the DuPage County Board to serve as trustee for the Wheaton Mosquito Abatement District.

2013: Appointed by the DuPage County Board Chair to serve on the Health Department's Mosquito Abatement Task Force, comprised of the President of the DuPage County Health Department a DuPage County board member and five representatives of local governments that provide mosquito abatement services. The mission of the task force was to obtain input on a public education campaign, the standardization of surveillance, reporting procedures and abatement practices across all entities in DuPage County in order to align and improve services, reduce the risk of disease and explore opportunities to utilize local resources more efficiently. The task force met from 2013 to 2016.

2013: Led an initiative for WMAD to partner with the DuPage County Health Department and the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County to fund a study by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). Researchers at UIUC found that mosquito infection rate (MIR) for West Nile virus can reliably be estimated with statistical models based on rainfall and temperature. The research team developed a model that was referred to as the DuPage Model because historic data from DuPage County was used to for the model. Research findings were published in a paper titled, "Predicting West Nile Virus Infection Risk from the Synergistic Effects of Rainfall and Temperature." It was published by the "Journal of Medical Entomology" in April 2016. Two months after the publication of the study, I was invited by "Entomology Today" magazine to submit an article about the DuPage Model. The title of my article was, "Prediction of Mosquito Infection in Real-Time in DuPage County, Illinois." The DuPage Model was implemented in 2015 and continued to operate until 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic reallocated staff resources at UIUC.

2016: Initiated discussions with West Chicago MAD and Milton Township MAD to agree to a three-MAD purchasing co-op, to better standardize and coordinate services while identifying opportunities for greater efficiency. Our discussions resulted in a coordinated services agreement to reduce annual costs for each mosquito abatement district.

2016: Initiated the printing and mailing of an annual postcard to residents of the District, to inform them of mosquito and tick awareness, and to provide web resources on vector-borne disease. An updated postcard to residents has been mailed annually since then.

2019: WMAD sponsored a study conducted by UIUC to validate the existing Mosquito Infection model and to compare the existing model to a new prediction framework which was implemented by UIUC.

2019: Visited state legislators in Springfield to raise awareness of vector-borne disease in Illinois.

2021: Initiated a research project designed to measure resistance of pesticides used for mosquito control within WMAD. The study was titled, "Wheaton Sampling for Insecticide Resistance 2021."

2023: Initiated a research project for a Cost-Effective Analysis of the three-MAD purchasing co-op, to be used included in WMAD's Decennial Committee Report required by State statute. I anticipate that WMAD will file the report with DuPage County in December 2023.