

***Request for Proposal (RFP)
2022 West Nile Virus Larviciding Program
Brant County Health Unit***

This is an RFP for the mosquito control portion of the West Nile virus (WNV) Surveillance Program for the 2022 season to be conducted in the City of Brantford and County of Brant by the Brant County Health Unit.

Applications must be submitted no later than 4:30 pm on Friday, March 18, 2022, by one of the two following methods.

1. Hard copy submission in a sealed envelope mailed to the attention of the **Lisa DiDonato, Director, Finance at the Brant County Health Unit, 194 Terrace Hill Street, Brantford, Ontario, N3R 1G7.**
2. Electronic submission emailed with the subject **CONFIDENTIAL RFP SUBMISSION 2022 West Nile Virus Larviciding Program** to lisa.didonato@bchu.org.

Acceptance and rejection of quotes

This RFP should not be construed as an agreement to purchase. The lowest priced or any quotation will not necessarily be accepted, and the Brant County Health Unit is not bound to enter a Contract with any Bidder.

Right to amend or cancel

The Brant County Health Unit reserves the right at its sole discretion at any time, and for whatever reason to, by addendum, modify, amend, or otherwise change this RFP.

Work on any site shall not commence until the Successful Bidder has provided to BCHU the following:

- a. **Insurance certificate**
- b. **WSIB certificate**
- c. **Any other required submittals as requested by BCHU**

Background

The Brant County Health Unit (BCHU) conducts an in-house WNV surveillance program each season to monitor the levels of WNV activity within its area. In 2021, the presence of WNV activity in Ontario was confirmed through the identification of confirmed positive mosquito pools, positive birds, and positive human cases. In the BCHU area, the presence of WNV was isolated in one positive mosquito pool for the 2021 season. In 2021, BCHU did not conduct a dead bird surveillance program. The 2021 season's surveillance program did not identify a WNV human case in our area.

Larval surveillance was also conducted in-house for the 2021 season. All testing indicated the presence of the disease at a low level in the City or County.

As a result of the above findings, the BCHU is required by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) to conduct a preventive larviciding program to control the mosquito vectors responsible for the spread of WNV to humans, primarily the species *Culex pipiens* and *Culex restuans*. In 2021, one application of larvicide was applied to all publicly owned catch-basins in populated areas. In 2021, one application was conducted to a surface water location of three sewage lagoons using *Bacillus sphaericus*. One application was conducted to storm water management ponds using *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti).

Scope of Work

It is the intent that the BCHU will conduct a 2022 larviciding control program similar to that of 2021. This includes:

1. One larvicide application of methoprene (in the form of Altosid pellets, or other acceptable product with BCHU approval) to approximately 14,000 catch-basins. Approximately 11,000 of those catch-basins are located within the City of Brantford, while the remainders are in the populated rural areas of the County of Brant, in the towns of Paris, St. George, Mt. Pleasant, Burford, Cainsville, Farringdon Hill, Glen Morris, Middleport, Oakhill, Oakland and Scotland.
2. The date of the application of larvicide to the catch-basins will be determined by BCHU staff based on larval monitoring. The pesticide applicator must be able to begin application within 5 days of receiving notification from BCHU staff. Historically the initial treatment date has been around the end of June or early July. A second and third application is optional and based on seasonal requirements.
3. Treatment of surface water locations such as storm-water management ponds (SWM) or sewage lagoons with *Bacillus sphaericus* and *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti) may be required. Forty SWM ponds and three sewage lagoon locations will be monitored by BCHU staff, and treatment will only be done if BCHU staff have identified a need for it. The pesticide applicator must be able to begin application within 3 days of receiving notification from BCHU staff.
4. All permit applications and reports required by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) are to be submitted by the pesticide applicator in a timely manner as needed. Mapping is available from the BCHU.
5. GIS shapefiles (readable by ArcGIS software) of recording treatment locations are required from the contractor at the end of the application season.

Proposal Requirements

Potential applicators are asked to submit a proposal outlining their approach to achieving the above requirements. All proposals should include:

1. Your Pesticide Applicators License number and the full name of the company as shown on your license, as issued by the Ministry of the Environment.
2. A current Certificate of Liability Insurance indicating the amount of coverage available for both General Liability and Pollution Liability. At least two million dollars of coverage must be provided for each category.
3. The cost *per catch-basin* of each application of pesticide, based on an estimate of 14,000 catch-basins to be treated once. This shall include all other costs such as application or report fees and pesticide costs.
4. A brief description of your plan to treat the catch-basins, and an estimate of how long you expect it to take to complete one full pesticide application to all catch-basins.
5. The cost *per hour* for surface water treatment with *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti) and *Bacillus sphaericus* (should it be required). This cost will include all related expenses such as pesticide, pre and post-treatment monitoring as required by the MOE, and any additional documentation required.
6. The name and contact information of a person BCHU staff can contact for further information/clarification of your proposal.
7. Two (2) client references, including the names and contact information.
8. Any other information you feel is pertinent and relevant to this matter.

Evaluation Criteria

		Weighting %
1	Company Capabilities, Resources and Experience	35%
2	Work Plan	40%
3	Fee Proposal	25%

Health and Safety Requirements

The successful proponent shall strictly comply with the current federal, provincial, and local Health and Safety regulations and the safety policies/procedures of the BCHU.

The successful proponent shall be required to provide a copy of their WSIB certificate prior to beginning work for the BCHU.

Negotiations

The BCHU reserves the right, prior to contract award, to negotiate changes to the scope of the services or to the contract documents (including pricing to meet budget) with the proponent or any one or more proponents, proposing the “best value” without having any duty to advise any other proponent or to allow them to vary their proposal as a result of changes to the scope of the services or to the contract documents; and the BCHU may enter into a changed or different contract with the proponent(s) proposing the “best value”, without liability to proponents who are not awarded the contract.

Irrevocability

The BCHU requests that Proposals remain open for acceptance for a period of not less than sixty (60) days from the closing date and time.

Conflict of Interest

Proponents shall disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest and existing business relationships it may have with the BCHU, the members of the Board of Health or employees.

Liability for Errors

While the BCHU has used considerable effort to ensure an accurate representation of information in this RFQ, the information contained is supplied solely as a guideline for proponents. The information is not guaranteed or warranted to be accurate by the BCHU, nor is it necessarily comprehensive or exhaustive. Nothing in this RFQ is intended to relieve the proponents from forming their own opinions and conclusions with respect to the work in this RFQ.

Trade Agreements

The RFP is subject to Ontario’s trade agreements.

Post Award

Bidders or proponent are entitled to a post-award debriefing. Protests are to be submitted in writing within 15 days of the award.

If you have any questions regarding this RFP prior to submission, please contact:

Lisa DiDonato
Director, Finance
Lisa.DiDonato@bchu.org
(519)753-4937 #344

Contact with other persons at BCHU, in regard to the RFP, may lead to disqualification.

Lisa DiDonato,
Director, Finance
Lisa.DiDonato@bchu.org

BRANT COUNTY HEALTH UNIT

www.bchu.org