

Authorities intensify fogging as mosquito menace stings

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Mosquito control professionals were all over the Kingdom yesterday armed with handheld and on-truck fogging devices, particularly in areas where citizens and residents complained were plagued with pesky mosquitoes.

Complaints were from all governorates of the Kingdom, with the experts blaming stagnant waters, piled up waste and weather for the menace.

Teams were deployed in Hamad Town, Karana, Damistan and Isa Town to identify breeding spots and spray pesticides.

Also, present during yesterday's operations were specialists from the Environmental Health Department.

Workers wearing masks and fogging machines were seen carefully inspecting and spraying chemicals into drainages as trucks fitted with fogging machines rolled through streets, immersing the locality in thick smoke to control the scourge of mosquitoes.

The Daily Tribune had earlier reported the woes of distressed citizens from across the Kingdom a few months back, where people likened the mosquito menace in the Kingdom to the notorious Mumbai-like situation in India.

Many from Umm Al Hassam and Gudaibiya had told The Daily Tribune that they were increasingly worried about their health, with their ears constantly filled with mosquito humming.

The action yesterday by the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture and the Ministry of Health also followed similar complaints from citizens and residents, which went viral



In pictures, Workers in action at various areas of the Kingdom



online. Officials said they are intensifying inspection campaigns to eliminate mosquitoes and their larvae.

"Cleaning and waste removal works are ongoing in all governorates of the Kingdom," the ministry said.

The ministry also confirmed that it periodically removes

rubble and construction wastes from public squares non-stop.

Officials said they have also recently cleaned rainwater drainages and conducted bilge suction ahead of the rainy season to limit the spread of mosquitoes.

"Cleaning and waste removal works are proceeding as per an approved mechanism."

Control works are ongoing where bilge water, building rubble and water are collected.

In this regard, the ministry also called on the need to adhere to regulations and laws for waste disposal to preserve public health.

The public can contact the ministry regarding cleaning

work on 80008188.

"We are spraying and thermal fogging periodically to reduce the spread of mosquitoes using special pesticides," said a health ministry official.

The Public Department of the Ministry of Health called on citizens and residents to remain aware of stagnant water col-

lected in containers, household fountains or drainage openings that are not tightly closed and to dispose of water periodically to avoid the presence of larvae in it.

Complaints can be made directly by calling 66701633 during official working hours from Sunday to Thursday from 7 am to 2 pm.

Trio proposes new methods for 'a much cleaner Bahrain'

Three school children inspire elders with their novel waste management methods

Zahra Ayaz
TDT | Manama

In a rare act of innovation, three schoolchildren have come up with a novel concept to handle waste management that will pave the way "for a much cleaner nation".

The project titled 'Land Ambulance' carries the slogan 'We seek a cleaner environment and support for humanitarian projects'.

The students, Muhammad Taqi, Muhammad Khaled, and Ali Hussein Fadh - implemented the project under the guidance of their coordinator, Nasim Muhammad Ali.

Speaking to media, the students said, "The idea is based on allocating specially equipped vehicles to help the Kingdom's land surfaces; sustain its cleanliness and protect it from waste, pollution and environmental damages.

"We will keep coloured containers in every location, with



Students, Muhammad Taqi, Muhammad Khaled, and Ali Hussein Fadh - implemented the project under the guidance of their coordinator, Nasim Muhammad Ali.

each colour denoting a certain

plastic, metal, wet trash, and dry garbage. This can comprehensively

and logically cover every area of the Kingdom.

"For all the house owners it will be convenient as they have to only contact and then the specialized team collects and classifies the waste, in order to recycle it and convert it into a wealth of useful products in order to achieve sustainable development. We aspire to spread the idea and apply it at the local and maybe international level."

The efforts are supported by the Ministry of Education to support such innovation, creativity and student projects across public schools, according to sources.

Earlier, The Daily Tribune reported that only 13pc of waste in Bahrain is recycled, quoting a study which highlighted the immense waste crisis the country is currently facing.

A case study carried out by EcoMena, found that Bahrain is one of the highest per capita waste generators worldwide estimated at 1.67-1.80 kg per per-

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A person in Bahrain wastes around 132 kilograms of food annually which is a total of 230,000 tons coasting around BD95 million according to the latest UNEP statistic

DR SUMAYA YOUSIF, A BAHRAINI RESEARCHER

son per day.

"The Kingdom generates more than 1.2 million tons of solid waste every year. Daily garbage production across the nation exceeds 4,500 tons. Municipal solid waste is characterized by a high percentage of organic material (around 60pc), which is mainly composed of food wastes.

According to Dr Sumaya Yousif, a Bahraini researcher in the field, wasting food is of grave

consequence in a world, where seven million people suffer from hunger everyday globally.

"A person in Bahrain wastes around 132 kilograms of food annually which is a total of 230,000 tons coasting around BD95 million according to the latest UNEP statistic" she said. "This requires immediate action to prevent this massive waste of food."

"It is critical to raise awareness about reusing and recycling waste in various ways to prevent wastage such as using innovative cooking methods as well as turning leftovers into compost at individual homes and across the Kingdom.

She also highlighted the importance of developing food banks and societies that preserve food while also emphasizing that it is critical to invest in the education sector within efforts to raise awareness and prepare the future generation to invest in environmental innovations as well as following a circular economy system.