

Why do we spray?

We spray to protect the health and welfare of our citizens from mosquito borne illness.

York County has 43,000 acres of water, wetlands, woodland pools, and marshes coupled with many miles of drainage ditches. Under the proper conditions, mosquito populations can greatly increase. When spraying is warranted, adulticide may be applied by ground trucks or, on occasion, by aerial flights. For the convenience of our citizens, we provide daily spray schedule information. Visit www.yorkcounty.gov/mosquitocontrol or call our spray hotline at 890-3793.



Mosquito repellent plants with other natives create a beautiful backyard that you can enjoy.

Please see our website for mosquito repellent plant species as well as literature on their repellent properties at www.yorkcounty.gov/mosquitocontrol.

Our mission: To effectively reduce the mosquito annoyance level and threat of associated vector-borne diseases of public health importance in a proactive and environmentally conscious manner.

York County Mosquito Control is committed to the continued development of environmentally conscious pest control. Please check our website regularly for updates and additional information on our entire mosquito control program at www.yorkcounty.gov/mosquitocontrol.

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Mastering the Mosquito



Mosquito larvae

Mosquito Threat

About a day after emerging as an adult, a female mosquito flies off in search of a blood meal. She is attracted by body warmth, odor, moisture, and the carbon dioxide we exhale. When she bites, the female injects a bit of saliva that slows coagulation.



Biologist Elizabeth Hodson talks to students.

Your body's reaction causes the welt and itching later on.

In her quest for blood, a mosquito may bite birds, reptiles, or mammals; including humans. Some mosquitoes have become domesticated; living exclusively in and around human habitations.

York County is home to over 20 different mosquito species. Mosquitoes can spread many diseases including malaria, many types of encephalitis, dengue fever, chikungunya, and dog heart worm.

Fortunately, advances in sanitation and drainage control, in combination with the efforts of the Mosquito Control division have greatly reduced the risk of contracting a mosquito borne illness in this area.

What do we do?

York County Mosquito Control utilizes an Integrated Pest Control method which includes the following components:

- **Surveillance**—monitor mosquito populations
- **Education & Outreach**—provide helpful information to the public
- **Mechanical Control**—debris removal and ditch maintenance
- **Biological Control**—deployment of larvicide, *Gambusia holbrooki*, and more



The large *Psorophora ciliata* mosquito may bite through clothing.

- **Chemical Control**—application of adulticides as needed to control high populations
- **Research & Development**—perform research to find effective products with the least environmental impact

What can you do?

Mosquito Control begins at home! All mosquitoes need standing water in which to reproduce and grow. You can greatly reduce the mosquito annoyance in and around your home by eliminating breeding sites where mosquito larvae thrive.

Here are a few simple things you can do around your home that will help:

- Eliminate all standing water sources in your yard
- Clean your gutters at least twice per year
- Dispose of old tires or containers
- Wear insect repellent and long, loose, and light colored clothing
- Change birdbath water once a week
- Report drainage issues in your neighborhoods
- Stock ornamental ponds with mosquito fish or use larvicide
- Shake out tarps, pool covers, grill covers, etc., once a week
- Add mosquito repellent plants to your yard or patio
- Do not dump leaves, trash, or grass clippings into drainageways
- Call 890-3790 to report a mosquito problem



Mosquito populations being monitored.

