

# ***Our Mission:***

To protect public health and comfort



## **1. We trap and monitor mosquitoes**

We do this in order to identify potential West Nile Virus carriers, to locate breeding sources, and to count mosquitoes

## **2. We reduce the sources of mosquitoes**

We work with the public to eliminate or treat mosquito breeding sites; this is much more effective and cost-efficient than spraying for adult mosquitoes

## **3. We kill mosquitoes before they fly**

We routinely larvicide mosquito breeding sites throughout the district and constantly check for the presence of mosquito larvae

## **4. We spray to kill adult mosquitoes**

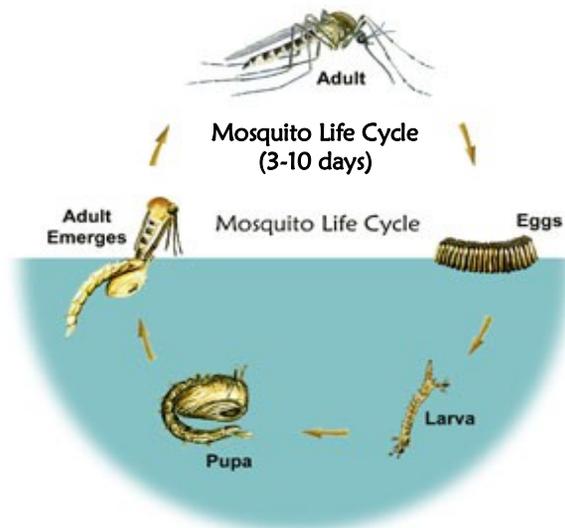
This is our least effective defense against mosquitoes, however, we do it to attempt to control mosquitoes that reach adulthood or that fly in from areas outside of district boundaries

Help us stop mosquitoes before they fly into your neighborhood.



Help us locate potential breeding sites so we can treat them if mosquito larvae are present.

Locating and taking care of the breeding site is the **ONLY** way to stop the mosquitoes that are pestering you. The most effective way to do this is for a neighborhood to work together to help us locate, gain access to, and treat the breeding sites. Neighborhoods that have done this have virtually eliminated their mosquitoes.



# ***Your Responsibilities:***

## **1. Avoid Bites**

- Use an EPA approved mosquito repellent when outdoors
- Wear long sleeves and long pants & socks
- Repair or replace damaged screens
- Take extra precautions just after sunset when mosquitoes are most active



## **2. Clean up Breeding Sites**

- Drain Standing Water. Even a cow's hoofprint can hold enough water for mosquitoes to lay thousands of eggs
- Eliminate old tires, buckets, toys, dog dishes, wheelbarrows, leaky faucets or pipes, and anything else that can hold water
- Don't allow irrigation water to puddle
- Fill in low areas with dirt or gravel



## **3. Help Our Community**

- Let the abatement district know of ponds or areas of standing water that do not have a sign nearby stating they have been checked for larvae
- Become educated and help educate your neighbors. Mosquito control is possible, but It is as much your responsibility as it is ours.

## Frequently Asked “Mosquito” Questions

### I’ve paid my taxes—where is my mosquito spray truck?

- We operate an integrated mosquito control program that involves killing the larvae and the adults. Your tax money is much more effectively spent and you will have fewer mosquitoes if we can eliminate the breeding sites near you first.
- The spray truck does not prevent mosquitoes nor keep them from coming back. It simply helps in a small way to temporarily reduce the adult mosquito population in situations when they are abundant. Because of this, we only spray in areas where we have become aware of a problem.
- Because of the risk of killing bees and other beneficial insects, the spray trucks can only operate after about 8:00 p.m. on nights when there is no wind. As a result, we often spray after dark and people don’t see or hear us.

### The mosquitoes seem to be coming from my grass and raspberries. Is that where they are breeding?

- No! Our mosquitoes can only come from shallow, standing water. However, when the sun comes out, they take shelter in the vegetation. When someone walks through that vegetation, it stirs them up. If your mosquitoes are thick, there is standing water near you!

### Is the big pond at the end of my road the source of my mosquitoes?

- Probably not. Mosquitoes tend to lay their eggs in very shallow, stagnant water. The ideal breeding areas are only an inch or two deep and are often difficult to see because of grass or brush.

### They’ve treated the water near my home but I still have mosquitoes. What’s the problem?

- It may take a day or two for the existing mosquitoes to disappear, but if they persist, we haven’t found all of the water.
- One of the biggest challenges we have is locating all of the breeding sites. We need your help. No one knows your property and neighborhood as well as you do. In some areas that have traditionally been very “bad,” mosquitoes have been virtually eliminated without ever using the spray truck when residents get involved. If property owners will identify any areas of standing water, clean up branches, trees, and vegetation that may make it hard to treat, and work as partners with us, we can improve your quality of life! But it takes some effort, and we cannot do it alone.

### Who do I contact to report problems or to learn how I can help my neighborhood?

- Give us a call at **589-7830**.

## Jefferson County Mosquito Abatement District

**PROTECT  
YOURSELF AND  
YOUR FAMILY  
AGAINST  
WEST NILE**

**We Can’t Do  
it Without  
Your Help!**



**FIGHT  
THE BITE**