

West Nile Virus Educational Project
North Central District Health Department
O'Neill, NE
www.ncdhd.ne.gov



Mosquito Model

- To be displayed at county fair booths, infection control meetings, and local health department
- Model can be taken apart and viewed to emphasize pathogen-vector relationships
- Distributor: Holt Anatomical
<http://www.holtanatomical.com/>
- ZoS 48/5 Model of a Mosquito
Enlarged on a scale 1:50– Culex Pipiens

Other Outreach Opportunities Utilized

- Health fairs and Farm and Home Shows in jurisdiction
- [WNV prevention brochures](#)
- WNV flyswatters
- [WNV Bookmarks](#)

HOMEOWNER CONTROL TIPS

Mosquitoes are an all too familiar summer nuisance. They are not only annoying, but they present potential health hazards as transmitters of such diseases as encephalitis, malaria and yellow fever to humans, and heartworm to pets. But there are positive steps you the homeowner can take to reduce this menace, since many generations of mosquitoes can breed right in your own yard.

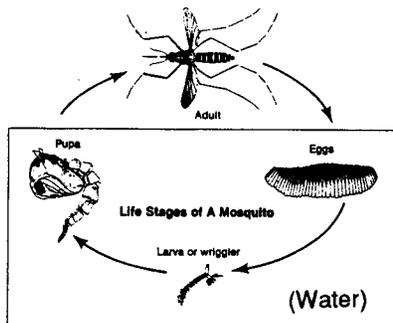
Spray mosquito roosting areas. Follow a regular spraying program. Spray where mosquitoes rest during the heat of the day--in the cool leafy shade of shrubs, bushes, vines, flowers and in patches of tall grass and weeds. Also, spray sheltered surfaces outside the home such as roof eaves, breezeways, garages and the ceilings and screens of porches.

Several insecticides are approved by the Environmental Protection Agency and are available through most hardware stores, garden centers and farm supply centers. Follow all label instructions carefully.

Eliminating potential breeding grounds around your home and spraying where the adult mosquitoes hide will certainly help reduce the mosquito menace around your property.

Several biological insecticides are also available to control immature mosquitoes in aquatic habitats.

The elimination or control of mosquito populations will result in increasing your enjoyment of outdoor summer living.



The NEBRASKA MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL ASSOCIATION is a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Nebraska. Established in 1974 as an educational organization to promote better mosquito and vector control activities in Nebraska. Membership is open to all persons interested in mosquito and vector control work.

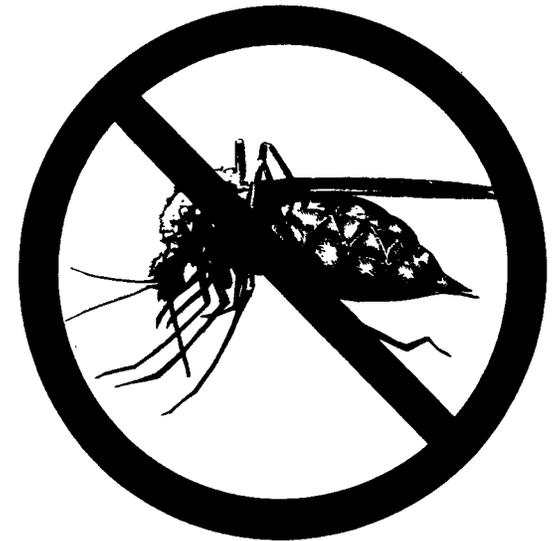
For membership information contact:

Dr. Wayne Kramer
Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services
P.O. Box 95007
Lincoln, NE 68509
(402) 471-0506

WHY YOUR COMMUNITY SHOULD BE A MEMBER OF NMVCA:

- Education and guidance in mosquito and other nuisance insect control.
- Assistance in developing a comprehensive mosquito control program for your community.
- Information on the control of other vertebrate pests such as birds & rodents.
- Information on sampling and identification of mosquito populations.
- Pesticide safety and certification training.
- Assistance in calibration and droplet testing of truck mounted (ULV) mosquito control equipment.
- Spring educational workshops throughout the State.
- Annual fall educational conference.

HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO MOSQUITO CONTROL



Provided By

NEBRASKA

MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL ASSOCIATION, INC.
FOUNDED IN 1974

BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW THESE AMAZING MOSQUITO FACTS

"Mosquito". The name is Spanish for "little fly." There are 3000 different kinds of mosquitoes and a worldwide population of 100 trillion!

Most are tropical. But, there are mosquitoes in the arctic regions, in deserts and probably near your home.

They can fly up to 10 mph, dart between raindrops, even fly backwards. Most live and die close to where they hatch, but some are strong flyers that travel many miles in search of a victim.

Only female mosquitoes bite. They require a "blood meal" in order to develop eggs to make more mosquitoes. Most female mosquitoes lay their eggs on standing water. Stagnant ponds, ditches and fresh or saltwater wetlands are favorites. But even a few tablespoonfuls of water in a flower pot or old auto tire will do.

The eggs hatch... become swimming larvae, then pupae and finally, flying adults. Mosquito larvae are an important source of food for certain fish and the flying adults are eaten by birds, bats and other animals.

But to humans and domestic animals, mosquitoes are strictly a nuisance and a health hazard, transmitting a variety of diseases.

In their quest for blood, mosquitoes may bite birds, frogs, snakes and mammals, including people. Some, called "peridomestic" mosquitoes, actually live and breed around homes just to be near us.

24 hours or so after hatching, a female mosquito flies off in search of a meal. She homes in on body warmth, odor, moisture and the carbon dioxide we exhale.



When she bites, she injects a bit of saliva that slows coagulation so blood flows freely. It's your body's allergic reaction to the saliva that causes the welt and the itch later on.

In tropical countries, mosquitoes transmit malaria, Dengue fever, yellow fever and filariasis among other diseases. In the U.S., equine encephalitis is the most common one affecting humans. It's untreatable, and can be fatal. Outbreaks frequently follow a surge in the mosquito population brought on by warm, wet weather.

The recently-arrived Asian Tiger mosquito, now spread over much of the southern U.S., is an aggressive, persistent biter that carries encephalitis. It's commonly found breeding in discarded auto tires

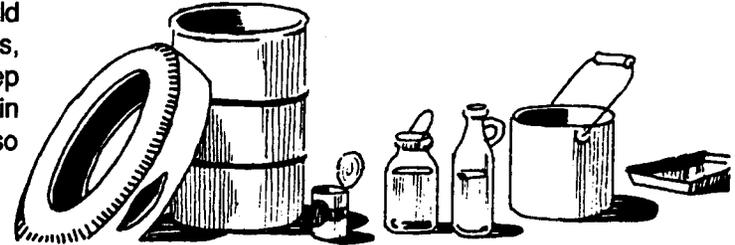
Mosquitoes also transmit canine heartworm, fatal to dogs once contracted. Pet owners can purchase a preventive medicine from a veterinarian.

ARE YOU RAISING MOSQUITOES ON YOUR PROPERTY?

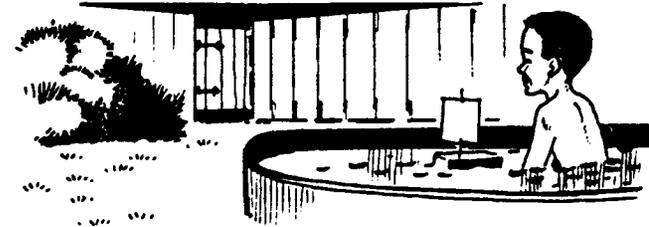


CHECK YOUR YARD & HOME ...

YOU SHOULD . . . Get rid of old tires, cans, bottles, jars, buckets, drums and other containers, or keep them drained. Standing water in clogged household gutters can also raise mosquitoes.



YOU SHOULD . . . Empty your small toddler-size plastic wading pool weekly and store it indoors when not in use. Make certain your backyard swimming pool is properly cared for while on vacation.



YOU SHOULD . . . Repair leaky pipes, outside faucets, and move air conditioner drain hoses frequently. Eliminate puddles created by lawn watering procedures.



YOU SHOULD . . . Change water and scrub vases holding flowers or cuttings twice each week -- or grow cuttings in sand; scrub and change water in bird baths twice weekly; empty water pans of pets daily.



STOP RAISING MOSQUITOES IN YOUR YARD!

West Nile virus is a risk you can do something about.

West Nile virus is now in most of the United States.

The most important way people become infected is through the bite of an infected mosquito. You can reduce your chance of getting infected by **avoiding mosquito bites**.



Adults are at highest risk.

People over age 50 and people who have ever received a solid organ transplant are more likely to develop serious symptoms of West Nile virus if they do get sick and should take special care to avoid mosquito bites.

What happens if I get infected?

A small number of people (about 1 in 150) who get infected with West Nile virus develop severe disease, called West Nile encephalitis or West Nile meningitis (inflammation of the brain or the area around the brain). Symptoms of severe illness include headache, high fever, stiff neck, mental confusion, muscle weakness, tremors (shaking), convulsions, coma, and paralysis. These symptoms may last several weeks and neurological effects may be permanent. **See your health care provider** if you develop these symptoms.

Some people who become infected have symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, nausea, vomiting, swollen lymph glands or a skin rash on the chest, stomach and back. Symptoms can last for a few days to several weeks. **Call your health care provider** if you have questions about your symptoms.

Most people who get infected with West Nile virus do not have any symptoms. There is no specific treatment for West Nile virus infection. There is no vaccine available for people.

For more information

www.cdc.gov/westnile
800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)

NCDHD
422 East Douglas
O'Neill, NE 68763
402-336-2406
866-336-2406

Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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