

Mosquito Control 2022



Tips on
Back

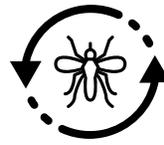
Information about Mosquito Control in Athens-Clarke County



The Athens-Clarke County Unified Government's Mosquito Control Program provides tips and resources to help residents protect themselves

and their families during upcoming months when many mosquitoes are most active. There are over 160 mosquito species in the U.S. and over 60 in Georgia.

Mosquitoes that have fed on infected animals or humans can transmit West Nile virus, LaCrosse encephalitis, Zika, or other diseases to humans, wildlife, and domestic animals. There is no evidence that mosquitoes can transmit COVID-19.



All mosquitoes require standing water for part of their life cycle.

Only female mosquitoes bite, requiring a blood meal to develop their eggs. Eggs are laid on the surface of standing water or in places that will later become flooded or filled with water. Once eggs are wet for a period of time, larvae emerge and feed before becoming pupae. After 1-3 days in this stage, the adult mosquito emerges.

In ideal conditions, the growth from egg to adult can take less than one week.

There are two general ways to minimize mosquito bites:



1 Reduce mosquitoes in your area



Eliminating breeding sites is extremely important in reducing the mosquito population.

Removing standing water is key. Almost anything that will hold water for as little as one week can produce mosquitoes. Common household items that often hold water include flower pot bases, birdbaths, children's toys, tarps, clogged gutters, and buckets.

When in doubt, dump it out!



ACCGov only treats standing water that cannot be eliminated only on public property. Some natural areas – such as

Sandy Creek Nature Center property or areas along the Greenway – control mosquitoes using biological methods such as fish or may not be treated in order to preserve natural balances.

General spraying to kill adult mosquitoes is only done on public property as a last resort after an area is determined to have a special concern.

To report public areas that may need treatment, call the ACC Transportation & Public Works Department's Streets & Drainage Division at 706-613-3465.



2 Reduce mosquitoes' attraction to you and your family



Purchase larvicide briquets in home improvement or lawn and garden stores. These briquets kill mosquito larvae

before they become adults, but do not harm other animals or humans. **Use larvicide briquets only in standing water that cannot be eliminated or dumped or in rain barrels.** Follow label instructions carefully when using pesticides.



Prevent and remove litter. Tires, cups, chip bags, cans, bottles, and other litter can provide areas for mosquitoes to grow. Don't create litter – always properly dispose of your trash and recycling and pick up any litter on and around your property.

Want to help even more? Have a group take part in a one-time or recurring cleanup program through Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful (706-613-3512 ext. 310 / accgov.com/kaccb).



Property with trash, stagnant water, and dumping sites will produce mosquito breeding sites. **Report nuisance areas** to the ACC Code Enforcement Division at 706-613-3790.

For questions not answered on this flyer or on www.accgov.com/mosquito, contact the ACCGov Public Information Office at 706-613-3795 or info@accgov.com.

Mosquito Control 2022



Eliminate standing water. When in doubt, dump it out. Check areas weekly and after it rains to find areas with standing water.



Dispose of any trash that can hold water, especially tires. Almost anything that can hold water for a week – even a chip bag – can produce mosquitoes.



Purchase larvacide briquets at home improvement or lawn and garden stores. Use them only in water that cannot be eliminated. Follow label instructions carefully when using pesticides.



Check rain barrels. They may need larvacide briquets in them if proper insect screening / sealing is not used on openings.



Check tarps, covers, and gutters for pockets that collect water. Dump out any water and make changes to prevent more.



Change or dump out water in plant containers and birdbaths at least weekly. Plant container bases can be a particular problem.



Remove or trim excess vegetation such as ivy to eliminate areas where adult mosquitoes like to rest.



Stay indoors at dawn, dusk, and early evening when mosquitoes are most active.



Sit by a fan to repel mosquitoes, as they don't like strong winds.



Long sleeves, pants, socks & shoes allow less exposed skin. Wear loose fitting, light-colored clothing. Mosquitoes are typically attracted to dark colors.



Use insect repellent. Products containing DEET, Picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus are recommended for use on skin and are registered with the Environmental Protection Agency. Products with 10-30% concentrations of DEET can be used on children over 2 months old. Higher percentages of DEET provide *longer* protection, although amounts over 30% do not provide much *added* protection. Use any repellent according to directions. Repellent can be used with sunscreen.



Ultrasonic devices and traps have *not* been shown to provide a noticeable mosquito reduction. Backyard foggers may be helpful if needed, but avoid misters that can be scheduled. You may still need repellent. Devices and foggers only kill adult mosquitoes, so continue removing standing water.



Keep pets indoors at dawn, dusk, and in the early evening. Don't apply repellent to animals. Treat dogs to prevent heartworm, a mosquito-borne disease.



Use proper light outside: incandescent lights attract mosquitoes, fluorescent lights neither attract nor repel them.