

Did you Know Mosquitoes Can Carry Serious Diseases?

Some of these diseases include:



West Nile Virus



Encephalitis



Dengue



Heartworm in Dogs



Malaria



Yellow Fever

How to Protect Yourself

For personal protection against mosquito bites, it is beneficial to wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants whenever you are outdoors and to use insect repellent (products containing DEET are most effective).

Mosquito repellent products and insecticides for your home, patio, and yard are available at your local hardware, farm supply, and general merchandise stores. Be aware mosquitoes are most active at dawn, dusk and in the early evening.

To keep mosquitoes out of your home, be sure the door, porch and window screens are in good condition.

What are the Symptoms of Mosquito Carried Illnesses?

Encephalitis, which includes the West Nile Virus, are illnesses that infected mosquitoes may spread.

Most people infected with a virus will not show any symptoms, but some may develop symptoms such as fever, headache, fatigue, body aches, and swollen lymph nodes.

A small number of people with these symptoms may develop a more serious case of Encephalitis (inflammation of the brain tissue), or meningitis (inflammation of the spinal cord). Additional symptoms may include weakness, dizziness, confusion, and stiff neck. Although rare, death can occur.

If you experience any of these symptoms, you should seek medical attention.

Contact Us

Waco-McLennan County
Public Health District:

225 W. Waco Drive
Waco, Texas 76707

Phone: (254) 750-5450

Web Site: www.waco-texas.com

Did You Know Your Backyard & Home Are Potential Breeding Places for Mosquitoes?



Tips for Controlling the Mosquito Population & Avoiding Insect Bites

Waco-McLennan County
Public Health District
(254) 750-5450

How to Control the Mosquito Population

If there are any places around your home where water collects,
You May Be Raising Mosquitoes!

Empty, remove, cover or turn upside down any receptacle that would hold water such as old bottles, tin cans, buckets, drums, etc.



Change water in birdbaths twice weekly.



Change water in pet dishes frequently.

Discard old tires or store them indoors.

Clean clogged roof gutters and drain flat roofs.

Fill holes in trees with sand or mortar, or drain or spray them as required.

Stock ornamental ponds with mosquito fish.



Change water in vases holding flowers or cuttings twice each week or grow cuttings in sand.

Improve drainage so that water does not stand for more than three days in ditches, depressions, etc.

Empty plastic wading pools weekly and store indoors when not in use.

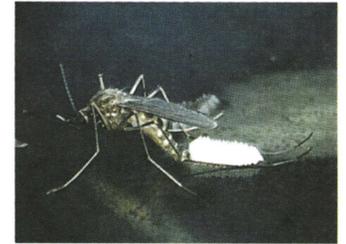


Keep your yard mowed and bushes trimmed to prevent resting places for adult mosquitoes.

How Mosquitoes Develop

All mosquitoes need water to develop. Adult mosquitoes may rest in grass, shrubs, or plants, but they never develop there.

Some mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water where they hatch in a day or two.



Other mosquitoes lay their eggs in old tires, tin cans, or other water-holding containers in which they may remain unhatched for weeks or months until they are covered with water.



With both types of mosquitoes, the wigglers or larvae grow quickly and turn into tumblers or pupae. Soon the skin of the tumbler splits open and out climbs another hungry mosquito.



Mosquitoes develop only in standing water...and can produce a crop of mosquitoes in just a few days!