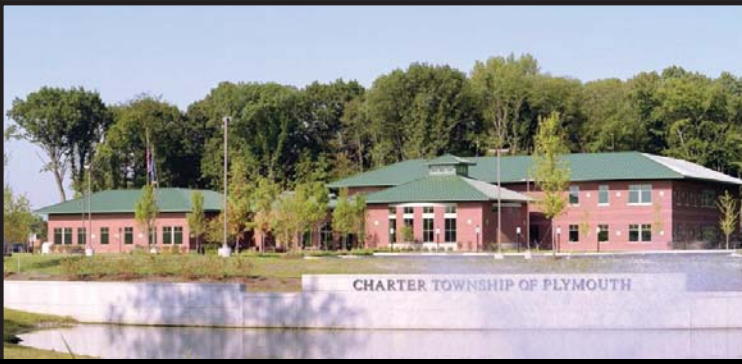


CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH FACT SHEET MOSQUITO CONTROL

DPS



There are over 3500 species of mosquitoes in the world today.

Mosquitoes are not only bothersome pests in the warmer months in Michigan, but they can also be carriers of diseases that can be harmful to humans. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) there are approximately 3500 species of mosquitoes in the world today with only a fraction of those carriers for diseases such as West Nile Virus and the newly introduced Zika Virus.

In Southeast Michigan, our main concern has been **WEST NILE VIRUS** as the mosquito species that carry the Zika Virus are not known, at this time, to live in this region. See the reverse for information on West Nile Virus and the potential spread of the Zika Virus in the US as released by the CDC in April 2016.

This fact sheet is designed to assist residents in controlling mosquitoes around their homes and properties.

Prevention is Key

Eliminate Standing Water

According to the State of Michigan Mosquito larvae or “wrigglers” must live in still water for five (5) or more days to complete their growth before changing into adult biting mosquitoes capable of transmitting disease. Often, the number of mosquitoes in an area can be reduced by removing sources of standing water around residences. For example, hundreds of mosquitoes can come from a single discarded tire.

Take the some time to remove any standing, stagnant water, the breeding ground for mosquitoes, from around your home. Turn over buckets, toys, etc. that can fill with water. Clean your birdbaths and gutters frequently.

Eliminate common backyard mosquito breeding sources.

Protect yourself from mosquito bites:

- ❑ Avoid outdoor activity during peak mosquito times – dusk to dawn
- ❑ Wear long, loose, light-colored clothing
- ❑ Use insect repellent when outdoors after sunset

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Chemical Controls

While eliminating standing water is considered the best method to prevention, in some instances people may wish to go further to include chemical control. There are several types of larvicides available for purchase at local hardware stores. Please read the label directions carefully before use. Alternatively, you can hire a professional contractor specializing in mosquito control.



ADDITIONAL PREVENTION OPTIONS

Reduce your outdoor activities during peak mosquito activity, April to October from dusk to dawn.

If you are outside during peak mosquito time wear long sleeve shirts, pants and socks and spray clothing and exposed skin with an insect repellent that contains DEET (N,N-diethyl-methyl-meta-toluidine). Remember that it should be used only according to the manufacturer's directions.

West Nile Virus

West Nile Virus is spread by mosquitoes and can cause encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) or meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain and spinal cord). It has been present in Michigan for nearly 15 years.

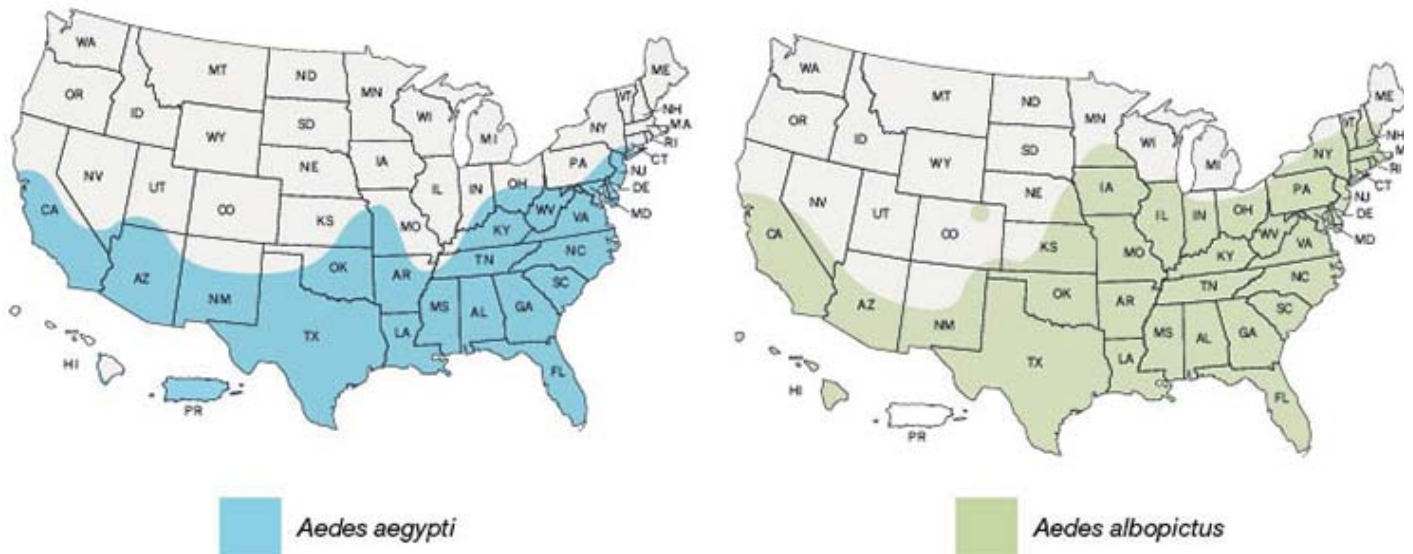
Warning signs of infection can include fever, headache, body and joint aches, fatigue, swollen lymph nodes, rash, and stiff neck and rash. If you have any concerns regarding your health contact your doctor. For additional information contact Wayne County Environmental Health Dept. 734-727-7000 www.waynecounty.com

Zika Virus

Zika virus disease is a mosquito-borne illness that has spread northward from South America over the past several months. While there have been cases of the virus reported in Michigan, these cases were not the result of mosquito bite within the state.

Hundreds of mosquitoes can come from a single discarded tire.

The maps below were released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in April 2016 and show the potential range of the two (2) mosquito species known to carry the virus.



The most common symptoms of Zika virus disease are a mild fever, skin rashes, muscle and joint pain, and conjunctivitis. These symptoms normally last for 2-7 days. Seek medical care if symptoms worsen.

For more information please visit the CDC's webpage at www.cdc.gov/zika/index.html

