

MOSQUITOES

Mosquito Information

There are over 2500 different species of mosquitoes throughout the world; about 200 species in the United States with 70 different species in New York State.

Mosquitoes are small flying insects that feed on human and animal blood or plant juices. They are insects belonging to the order Diptera, the True Flies. Like True Flies, they have two wings, but unlike other flies, mosquito wings have scales. Female mosquitoes' mouthparts form a long piercing-sucking proboscis. Males differ from females by having feathery antennae and mouthparts not suitable for piercing skin.

Several mosquito species have been linked to carrying West Nile virus, an infection that can cause serious illness.

When are Mosquitoes Most Active?

Some mosquitoes are most active between dusk and dawn when the air is calm, and that is when the females are most likely to bite. However, others will feed at any time of the day.

Where do Mosquitoes Live?

Some mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water around the home. They can develop in any standing water that remains more than four days. Weeds, tall grass and shrubbery provide an outdoor home for adult mosquitoes, which may also enter houses through unscreened windows and doors, or broken screens. Many kinds of mosquitoes will breed in discarded tires.

NOTE: The New York State Department of Health is using dead crow sighting and laboratory testing of birds to help track West Nile virus. If you see a dead bird, please contact us.

How can I Reduce the Number of Mosquitoes Around My Home?

Make sure all windows and doors have screens, and are kept repaired

Turn over plastic wading pools and wheelbarrows when not in use

Remove leaf debris, used tires, tin can, plastic containers, ceramic pots or similar water-holding containers

**** IMPORTANT NOTICE TO FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS ****

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES ARE YOU ALLOWED TO ATTEMPT TO RID YOUR ESTABLISHMENT OF BUGS, PESTS, OR RODENTS BY YOUR OWN MEANS. PER THE PUBLIC HEALTH CODE, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO HIRE A PROFESSIONAL LICENSED PEST CONTROL COMPANY FOR THIS TASK. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE OR CLARIFICATION ON THIS RULE, PLEASE CONTACT US VIA THE INFORMATION BELOW.

Contact Us

To receive more information or report a dead crow call or visit us at:

Clinton County Health Department
Environmental Unit
135 Margaret Street
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
Tel: (518) 565-4870