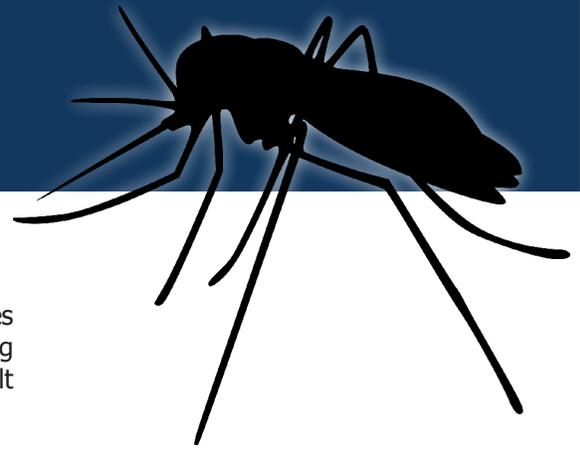




City of Jacksonville Streets Division



Mosquito Facts

Mosquitoes breed in all kinds of water, from small containers such as tree holes and tin cans to large bodies of water like lakes or marshes. Mosquito breeding water may be salty or fresh, polluted or clean, standing or slow moving. Adult mosquitoes can fly from the breeding site and become difficult to find.

Controlling Mosquitoes after they become adults requires expensive and complicated equipment. These machines create a very fine mist of insecticide that kills adult mosquitoes flying into it. The City of Jacksonville sprays for mosquitoes year round although the high spray season is June-October. The City sprays in neighborhoods, public spaces, and in wet areas like ditches, ponds and wetlands.

Beekeepers - Please call the street department at 910 938-5333 for important information on how to keep your bees safe during mosquito spray season. Mosquito Control Application details are online at JacksonvilleNC.gov/Mosquito.

Prevention Tips - You Can Help at Home

You can help prevent the spread of mosquito populations by eliminating breeding conditions at home. Water-holding containers such as tree holes, tires, tin cans, uncovered boats, leaf clogged rain gutters, and planters may breed mosquitoes. We encourage you to take these simple prevention steps:

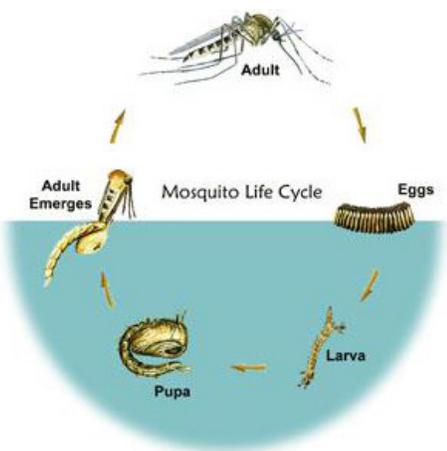
- Recycle or throw away trash and unwanted items
- Tip out water - cover, tip, store indoors items that fill with water
- Clean leaf-clogged gutters so they don't hold water
- Change water weekly (pet bowls, flowerpot dishes, or bird baths)

Tips to Avoid the Bite

- Avoid mosquito hotspots
- Wear light colors
- Use insect repellent
- Avoid certain times of day
- Remove standing water
- Use an insect net
- Keep air circulated

Mosquito Biology - Mosquitoes are insects that are close relatives to houseflies. The mosquito has four stages of growth; egg, larva, pupa, and adult. Mosquitoes lay their eggs on water or in places that are dry but will fill with water. Larvae hatch from the eggs and live, feed, and grow in the water. Fully grown larvae change into the pupae. During the pupal stage, feeding stops and changes occur that lead to the adult stage.

Adults emerge from the pupae, leave the water and take to the air. The cycle from egg to adult mosquito may take as little as a week, and live about 2-3 weeks. As adults, male and female mosquitoes mate. Only the female mosquito takes a blood meal (several during her short life span), in order to produce hundreds of eggs. Each type of mosquito may prefer blood from a different kind of animal such as birds, frogs, deer or humans. There are more than 50 types of mosquitoes in North Carolina and many do not attack humans.



Source: epa.gov/mosquitocontrol/mosquito-life-cycle



Asian Tiger Mosquito known to carry the Zika Virus

Disease Carriers - Mosquitoes can carry many diseases. Malaria, yellow fever, dengue fever, and filariasis are some of the most common. These diseases occur more commonly overseas. Mosquitoes in North Carolina do not currently spread diseases. Malaria was once found throughout the southern United States but has been eliminated in this country as a result of mosquito control, medical treatment, and improved living conditions. Occasionally, cases of mosquito-borne encephalitis occur in humans in North Carolina. Dog heartworm is a common disease carried by mosquitoes.