

Personal Protection

Personal protection reduces the discomfort caused by adult mosquitoes. The following suggestions will help reduce your exposure to mosquitoes:

- Ensure all doors and windows fit properly and are equipped with tight fitting, fine mesh screen.
- Wear light coloured, loose fitting, long sleeved shirts and pants.
- Minimize outdoor activity during sunrise and sunset when mosquitoes are most active. Mosquitoes can be found in tall grasses, bushes and moist vegetation during the day.
- Equip baby carriages and strollers with fine mesh netting to protect infants.
- Use insect repellent on ankles, wrists, neck and ears, avoiding areas around the eyes, nose and mouth. Do not use on cuts, scrapes or on infants or pets.
- Wash all skin treated with repellent once you have returned indoors.

For more information on insect repellants visit the Pesticide Management Regulatory Agency's (PMRA) Website at:
<http://www.pmra-arla.gc.ca/english/consum/insectrepellents-e.html>

Lets All Do Our Part!

To reduce nuisance mosquito numbers on your property and/or neighbourhood, it is important that everyone does their part. Reducing standing water locations will limit mosquito larval habitats.

IF YOU SEE STANDING WATER:

DUMP IT!
(containers)

DRAIN IT!
(eavestroughing, or unused containers)

COVER IT!
(rain water collection containers)

FILL IT!
(low-lying areas)

TREAT IT!
(biological larvicide)

If you are unsure of how to deal with standing water in your backyard or have any other insect related questions, call the City of Winnipeg Insect Control Branch's Bugline at 986-3210 or visit our website at:
<http://www.winnipeg.ca/bugline>

For Information on West Nile virus visit the following websites:
<http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/wnv/>
http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html



Fight The Bite Homeowners Guide

How to reduce mosquitoes on your property

How to protect your family against mosquito bites

Vous pouvez également vous procurer des dépliants en français au Centre de services bilingues. Pour ce faire, composez le 986-5600.

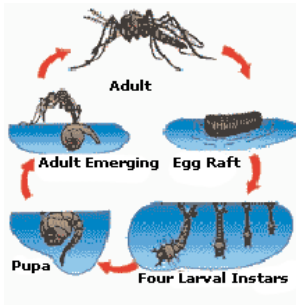
Mosquito Biology

In the spring, snow melt and seasonal rains revive the city from its dormant state. Unfortunately, this and subsequent summer rains, result in standing water - setting the stage for a mosquito emergence.

In Winnipeg, there are 38 different types of mosquitoes, and each has a particular biology and behavior. However, there are certain similarities among mosquitoes.

The mosquito has four distinct life stages: egg, larva, pupa and adult.

Only the female mosquito bites. It requires protein from a blood meal to develop and produce eggs. A female can produce up to 250 eggs from one blood meal. All females lay their eggs either on or near water.



After being flooded, the eggs hatch into larvae or "wrigglers". The larvae grow in size to about 10 mm and their development occurs in about 4 to 20 days, depending upon weather conditions.

The larvae then change into pupae or "tumblers". This stage may only last a few days. After this, the mosquito emerges as an adult.

An adult mosquito can survive for an extended period of time depending on the weather. During their lifecycle, female mosquitoes can take more than one blood meal which allows them to lay more eggs.

WHERE TO FIND MOSQUITO LARVAE IN YOUR YARD

Many of the mosquito problems in your neighbourhood are a result of water-filled containers which you can easily eliminate.

Can you find the locations where mosquitoes can develop?



Answers: Low lying areas under deck, by garage and tree, wading pool, canoe, paint can, tire, toy truck, flower planters, flower pot, rain barrel, eavestrough, dog house roof, tall grass, watering can, ashtray, and drink can.

HOW TO ELIMINATE STANDING WATER

- Store inside, turn over or empty containers
- Change pet water regularly
- Clean and change bird baths weekly
- Empty water from potted plant saucers
- Cover rain barrels with screen
- Store tires inside or take to recycling depot

- Keep eavestroughing free of debris
- Cover boats or allow to drain
- Maintain pool water or drain
- Repair leaky outdoor faucets
- Fill in low lying areas of yard
- Cut tall grass and weeds