

## Tips For Dealing With Mosquitoes

Remove, drain, or turn over any receptacles on your property that may hold unnecessary water.

When possible, avoid places and times (early evening and dusk) when mosquitoes bite.

Wear light-colored protective clothing. Tightly woven materials that cover arms and legs provide some protection from mosquito bites. Keep trouser legs tucked into boots or socks, and collars buttoned. If participating in outdoor activities when mosquitoes are biting, wear protective clothing (shoes, socks, shirt, and long pants).

Make sure door and window screens fit tightly and all holes are repaired. Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors or in an unscreened structure, and to protect small babies any time they are outside.

For additional protection from mosquitoes, use an insect repellent. The more DEET a product contains, the longer the repellent can protect against mosquito bites. However, concentrations higher than 50 percent do not increase the length of protection. For most situations, 10 percent to 25 percent DEET is adequate. Apply repellents to clothes whenever possible; apply sparingly to exposed skin if label permits.

For more information on West Nile Virus, please visit the following link: [www.cdc.gov/westnile/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/westnile/index.html)



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## MOSQUITO CONTROL Program



The City of Vermillion has adopted an aggressive control program to help combat mosquitoes and the threat of mosquito-borne illnesses such as West Nile. This program consists of mosquito population monitoring, treatment of mosquito breeding grounds, and aerial fogging to remove adult mosquitoes.

# Mosquito Control FAQs

## How are mosquitoes controlled before they become adults?

Mosquitoes breed in areas of prolonged standing water. Areas such as ditches, trapped flood waters, old tires and bird baths are prime examples of areas where mosquitoes lay eggs, which turn to larvae as temperatures warm up. The COV treats these sites with products that are placed in the water that may be ingested or absorbed by the mosquito larvae, which in turn disrupts their digestive process and leads to mosquito fatality before they become biting, disease transmitting adults, without impacting other non-target organisms. The COV does not treat areas on private property.

## How are adult mosquitoes controlled?

The COV uses truck-mounted fogging units to apply insecticides as an ultra-low-volume (ULV) spray. ULV spray units dispense very fine aerosol droplets (fog) that stay aloft and control mosquitoes on contact. The amount of insecticide sprayed by ULV units is small compared to the area treated, usually about 1-1.5 ounces per acre, which minimizes exposure and risks to people and the environment. All COV fogging units are calibrated each year by a certified product and equipment professional. All individuals operating the fogging vehicles are certified as pesticide applicators by the State of SD.

## Why is the COV fogging for mosquitoes?

Some communities decide to fog because of the nuisance caused by hordes of biting mosquitoes. In some situations, officials may fog because testing of mosquitoes and wild birds may have shown that mosquito-borne West Nile virus is present in the community.

## Why do they fog for mosquitoes in the evening?

The best time to control adult mosquitoes by fogging is at dusk and shortly after dark, which is when they are most active and looking for food (mosquitoes feed on human or animal blood). The aerosol fog primarily targets mosquitoes as they fly through the fog, making the timing of the ULV application very critical. Wind and other weather variables also play an important role in the decision to make a ULV fog application.

## Will COV officials notify me before fogging?

There is no law in South Dakota that requires local governments to notify citizens before fogging for mosquitoes. However, the COV will put out a press release the day before an anticipated ULV fog application is scheduled.



## Are the insecticides harmful to animals or humans?

The USEPA and the South Dakota Dept. of Ag review and approve insecticides (and other pesticides) and their labeling to ensure those used to protect public health are applied by methods that minimize the risk of human exposure and adverse health and environmental effects. Generally, there is no need to relocate during mosquito control fogging. The products have been evaluated for this use and have been found to pose minimal risk to human health and the environment when used according to label directions.

## How long does the fog kill mosquitoes?

During the ULV fogging application, flying mosquitoes within the treated area are killed. Although the local mosquito population is reduced for a few days, fogging does not prevent mosquitoes from re-entering the area, or emerging from untreated standing water. Although fogging will reduce the mosquito population in your area for a few days, individuals should apply mosquito repellent, wear pants and long sleeves, or avoid being outdoors when mosquitoes are present (see tips for dealing with mosquitoes on back).

## How can I be added to the NO FOG list?

Contact 605-677-7050 or email [parksandrec@cityofvermillion.com](mailto:parksandrec@cityofvermillion.com). Foggers will be shut off as they pass your home.