

# HOMEOWNER MOSQUITO CONTROL



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Board of Health

## Plymouth County Mosquito Control

142R Pembroke Street

P.O. Box 72

Kingston, MA 02364-0072

[www.plymouthmosquito.com](http://www.plymouthmosquito.com)

The Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project has prepared this pamphlet to briefly familiarize the homeowner with mosquito problems and to aid in the control of this nuisance on your property.

Of the 50 mosquito species known to occur in Massachusetts, only about 10 are major pests in Plymouth County. Mosquitoes may be grouped according to where the aquatic larvae are found.

1. Salt Marsh mosquitoes
2. Fresh water Marsh & Swamp mosquitoes
3. Domestic mosquitoes

This leaflet addresses the problem of domestic mosquitoes.

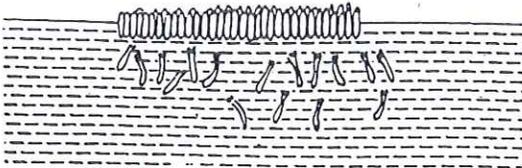
Mosquitoes involved in West Nile Virus transmission are species which may be breeding on your property. The aquatic larvae can be found in water which has collected in tin cans, bottles, discarded tires, clogged gutters, neglected bird baths and wading pools. Make a thorough inspection of your property, and dump all standing water once a week. A major problem may be caused by a malfunctioning cesspool or septic system. Be sure covers fit tightly, and that overflow problems are corrected, since standing sewage provides a prolific breeding habitat for larvae.

Coordinate your efforts with your neighbor to eliminate domestic mosquitoes as pests in your area.

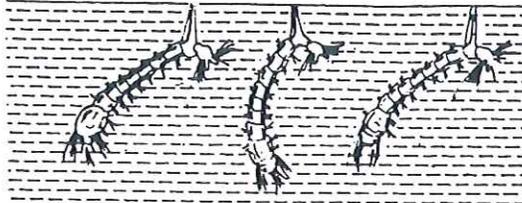
**Plymouth County  
Mosquito  
Project Control**

## LIFE CYCLE OF THE MOSQUITO

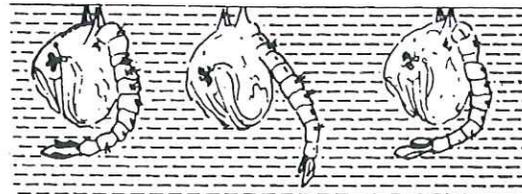
FIRST STAGE — EGGS



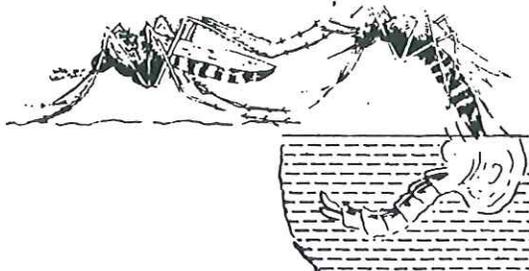
SECOND STAGE — LARVAE



THIRD STAGE — PUPAE



MOSQUITOES EMERGING FROM PUPAE



Populations of other mosquitoes migrating from several hundred yards to several miles away are a much more complex problem, and are the principle concern of the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project.

The Project utilizes the concept of integrated control, which simply means that more than one approach is directed toward control. Water management is practiced on a year round basis. Trained, licensed employees treat standing water to eliminate mosquito larvae during the breeding season. Only highly specific larvicides are used. Spraying for adult mosquitoes is also a phase of the program and can be very effective, but it is the least desirable approach.

If you, the homeowner, choose to use insecticides, follow all label directions carefully. Improper use of insecticides can harm soil, water, plants, and animals as well as people.

**Further information on West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, and other mosquito-borne diseases may be obtained on our web site:**

**[www.plymouthmosquito.com](http://www.plymouthmosquito.com)**

**or by contacting us at:**

### **Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project**

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