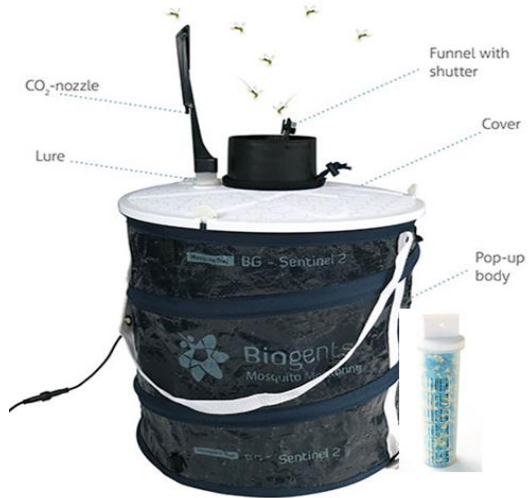
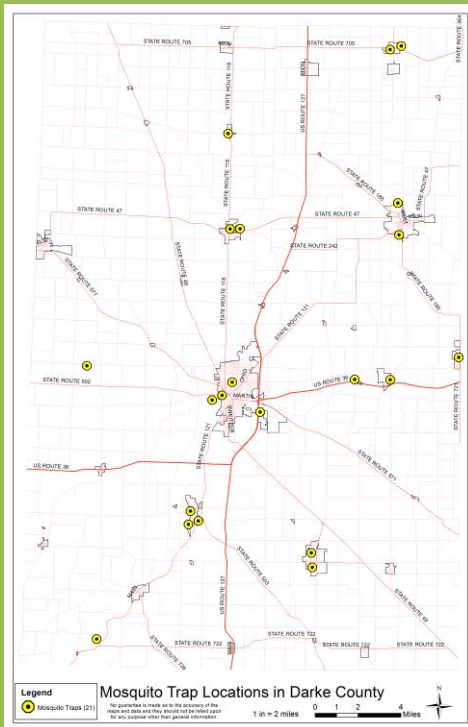


What is being done in Darke County?

The Darke County General Health District works to provide clear, accurate information and guidance regarding the presence and abundance of mosquitoes in order to prevent and control mosquito borne disease and decrease nuisance mosquitoes.

How do we do this?

- Trap adults and sample for larva
- Map areas with high mosquito populations
- Map mosquito breeding areas
- Create educational materials
- Work with towns and villages to control mosquitoes
- Send mosquitoes to Ohio Department of Health to test for West Nile Virus



Above is an example of a BG Sentinel trap used by the health department for mosquito surveillance. Below is a CDC light trap on the left, and a Gravid trap on the right. If you see a trap, please do not disturb it.



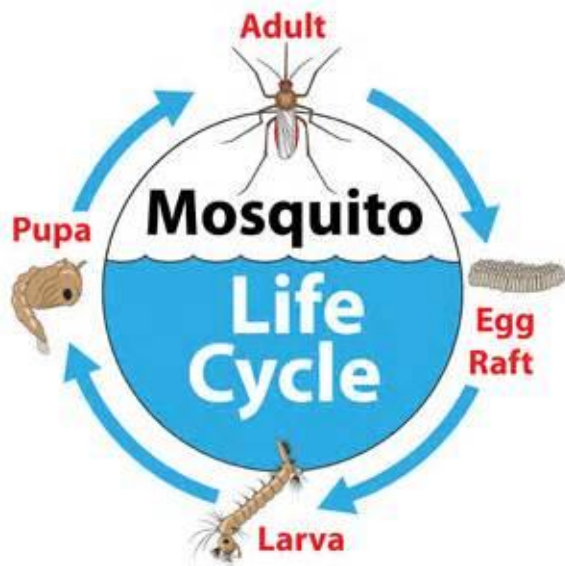
For more information:
Darke County General Health District
 300 Garst Avenue Greenville, OH 45331
 Phone: 937-548-4196
 Fax: 937-548-9654
www.darkecountyhealth.org
 Like us on Facebook!



Mosquito Control and Surveillance



What are mosquitoes?



- A small fly
- **4 life stages – egg, larva, pupa, adult**
- The egg, larva and pupa all **need standing water to complete their development**
- Any **water standing for more than 4 days can have mosquitoes**
- Anything that holds more than 2 tablespoons of water can rear mosquitoes
- **Only female mosquitoes bite** in order to get nutrients to lay eggs
- When mosquitoes bite they inject some saliva to keep the blood from clotting and prevent you from feeling the bite. This is what makes mosquitoes bites itchy.
- **Adult mosquitoes can live for more than a month**

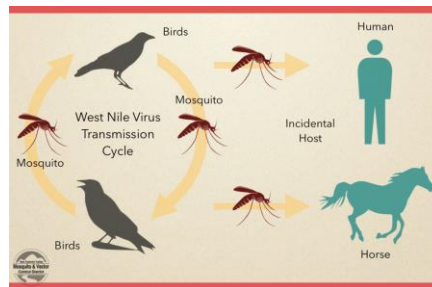
Mosquito-Borne Diseases:

Mosquitoes can spread several diseases around the world and in Ohio. If a female takes a blood meal from someone who is sick, and then feeds on a second person, the second person can get infected. **Not all mosquitoes are able to spread disease, and most diseases are not able to be spread by mosquitoes.**

Some diseases that have been recorded in Ohio include:

- West Nile Virus
- St. Louis Encephalitis
- Eastern Equine Encephalitis
- La Crosse Virus
- Zika Virus*

West Nile Virus has been found in Ohio and in previous years has been found in Darke County. Up to 80% of people who are infected with West Nile Virus will not experience any symptoms. Symptoms can include fever, headache, muscle ache, and a rash. A small number of people have severe symptoms and may require hospitalization. **The risk of severe disease is higher for people under 16 and older than 50.**



*Not currently transmitted by mosquitoes in Ohio.



How can I avoid getting bit?

- **Avoid going outside near dusk**, because this is peak mosquito activity.
- **Wear long sleeves and pants** when outdoors.
- **Use mosquito repellent** containing DEET, Picaridin or IR 3535 according to the label.
- **Keep windows and screen doors closed** and free of holes and gaps.
- Reduce the mosquito population in your yard, by **cutting tall weeds** or grass, **emptying birdbaths** and pet dishes every few days, **store containers upside down**, **drill a hole in tires**, **treat swimming pools**, **stock fish in fish ponds**.
- **If it is not possible to drain a water source, such as a flooded ditch, you can purchase Mosquito Dunks.** These are usually available in the garden section of supermarkets and hardware stores. They contain bacteria which only kill mosquito larvae, keeping water safe for pets, wildlife and other aquatic animals.