# Norfolk County Mosquito Control District



### The Problem:

- Mosquitoes are not just a nuisance issue, they carry many different diseases that are transmittable to humans.
- Mosquitoes are impossible to eliminate, but we can work to manage them and reduce the risk of disease transmission to the public...with your help!

#### Integrated pest management

- Integrated pest management (IPM) uses a combination of different control methods (biological, mechanical, etc.) to reduce the need for chemical pesticide application.
- This is an important part of managing mosquito resistance to pesticides as well as protecting non-target organisms from exposure to pesticides.

#### What we do:

- We service 25 towns in Norfolk county, MA
- Mosquito surveillance we monitor mosquito populations to help us make decisions about when and how to intervene.
- Larvicide and adulticide we use aerial and ground applications of EPA approved pesticides to control both the larval and adult stages of mosquito populations, targeting important nuisance and disease transmitting species.
- Source reduction we identify mosquito breeding sites and work to make the habitat unsuitable for mosquitoes by eliminating the water source or allowing for water flow and presence of predators.



Mosquitoes need a stagnant water source to complete development





## What YOU can do:

Be aware of standing water sources on your property. Common culprits include: bird baths, pet dishes, abandoned swimming pools, plant pots, garbage and recycle bins, tires, kiddie pools, ornamental ponds, swimming pool covers, clogged gutters, and many more!

- Drain or remove standing water sources, do not let water accumulate on your property for more than seven days.
- Add mosquito eating fish to ornamental ponds.
- Chlorinate swimming pools.
- Clear rain gutters.
- Change water in outdoor pet dishes and bird baths each week.

#### **Protect yourself:**

- Avoid outdoor activity during dawn and dusk, when mosquitoes are most active.
- Cover up, wear long sleeves, pants, and socks when possible.
- Use EPA approved repellents such as DEET, which can be applied to skin avoiding contact with face, <u>follow the label directions!</u>
- Permethrin products, <u>DO NOT APPLY TO SKIN</u>, for use on clothing only, <u>follow label directions!</u>

#### Other resources:

The CDC and EPA websites The Massachusetts Department of Public Health Your local Board of Health



 Find us at:
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