



MOSQUITO 101

Don't let mosquitoes suck up your summer fun. Use this information to learn more about mosquitoes and help prevent them from hanging around your property.

MOSQUITOES IN CANADA

- 74 species in Canada, 60 of which are known to bite humans and other animals.
- *Reader's Digest* reports that Komarno, Manitoba is the most popular mosquito destination. The town's name actually means "mosquito infested" in Ukrainian.¹
- Most species in Canada are more of a nuisance than vectors of disease.



Aedes Mosquitoes

- The most troublesome species and found across Canada
- Have been known to transmit Zika virus, chikungunya virus, yellow and dengue fever outside Canada

¹Middleton, Jackie. "10 Worst Places in Canada for Mosquitoes." *Reader's Digest*. <http://www.readersdigest.ca/travel/canada/10-worst-places-canada-mosquitoes>. yellow and dengue fever

ALL ABOUT BITES

Q: WHY DO MOSQUITO BITES ITCH?

A: Our immune system responds to mosquito saliva, releasing histamines that cause the skin to itch.

Q: WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF A BITE?

A: Typical symptoms include itching, swelling around the bite, bleeding and in some cases allergic reactions. If you experience fever, severe rash or joint and muscle pain, see a physician right away.



Q: HOW LONG DO SYMPTOMS LAST?

A: Symptoms can begin immediately, but it may be a few hours before you even notice you've been bitten. Most bites are harmless and symptoms subside in a few days, though they can last longer.

Q: HOW CAN I TREAT BITES?

A: Apply a cold compress or calamine lotion to affected areas to help reduce swelling. Mild antihistamines may relieve itching.

Q: CAN MOSQUITO BITES MAKE ME SICK?

A: Sometimes. Most recently, Zika virus has become a concern in the Americas and South Pacific. Mosquitoes can also transmit malaria, encephalitis, and yellow fever and dengue fever, among other diseases. See a physician right away if you have any concerns about a bite.

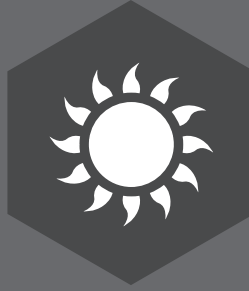
CONTROL & PREVENTION

WHAT ATTRACTS MOSQUITOES?



MOISTURE

(standing water sources)



HEAT

(body heat from humans and animals)



SMELLS

(exhaled gases, such as CO²)

HOW DO I KEEP THEM AWAY?



PREVENT YOUR EXPOSURE

- Wear loose, layered clothing
- Use approved mosquito repellents when necessary
- Replace outdoor lights with yellow "bug" lights



ELIMINATE ENTRY POINTS

- Install window and door screens
- Keep doors closed – including pet doors
- Seal around air conditioning window units



REMOVE BREEDING GROUNDS

- Clear debris from gutters and remove any standing water
- Change water regularly in bird baths and wading pools
- Keep pool water treated and circulating