

Morris County Mosquito Extermination Commission

PO Box 405, Morris Plains, NJ 07950

Phone – (973) 538-3200, Fax - (973) 538-3857, email – mslaff@co.morris.nj.us

Municipalities are encouraged to share this information with all residents in their community

THE MORRIS COUNTY MOSQUITO COMMISSION

The Morris County Mosquito Commission, founded in 1928, has the goal of reducing the number of nuisance and disease transmitting mosquitoes within the County. The Commission employs a number of techniques to provide this service to residents with minimal impact on the environment. The program can be summarized as follows:

1) Water Management - The Commission carries out extensive efforts to remove blockages from Morris County waterways, and to maintain drainage systems as needed. Such work is done carefully, with environmental impacts kept clearly in mind. This program helps reduce the use of insecticides needed to control mosquitoes.

2) Larval Control - Mosquitoes all start out in water as larvae, or “wrigglers”. In areas where water management is not feasible, larval control is necessary. Some locations are suitable for stocking with mosquitofish, which provide continuous, biological control of mosquitoes. In other areas, larvicides may be used to eliminate mosquitoes. We choose products that are specific for mosquitoes and have minimal or no effect on other organisms in the aquatic environment for this purpose, and these are applied by trained staff licensed by the NJDEP. All products are registered with both the USEPA and the NJDEP which mean they are legal to use in NJ and are reviewed and recommended by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, Cook College/Rutgers University. Locations receive treatment only when surveys show that large numbers of mosquitoes are a threat to populated regions. These products applied by hand crews, by all terrain vehicles, or by helicopter. Larval habitats are treated only when larvae are present.

3) Adult Control - Although this is the most visible aspect of mosquito control, we consider this to be a last resort. We try to stop mosquitoes before they are out and flying around. When adult control is needed because of a severe mosquito infestation, we generally use truck mounted sprayers that apply 1/2 – 1 ounce of material per acre. Sometimes, small hand sprayers are used to treat remote locations. Occasionally, a large, truck mounted air blast sprayer is used to create a barrier to control adult mosquitoes.

Homeowners can help control mosquitoes by making sure they do not have containers around the home that hold water. Buckets, gutters, bird baths, toys, tarpaulins and anything else that can contain water should be emptied or removed from the yard. Do not dispose of leaves and grass clippings in ditches, streams or catch basins. Make sure your screens are in good repair, and consider moving inside during periods of high mosquito activity (early evening and early morning).

The Morris County Mosquito Commission is constantly striving to improve our operations. These efforts include employing new products that are more specific for mosquitoes, using new equipment that gets us into problem areas more easily, and trying new methods for controlling mosquitoes. The employees of the Commission take their service to the public seriously, and will work to serve Morris County residents with the best possible mosquito control efforts.

Where can I find more specific information on mosquito spraying in Morris County, and how will I be notified of the spraying?

Call the Morris County Mosquito Commission at 973-538-3200. Attached is an example of a newspaper notice placed in the Daily Record and Star-Ledger by the Morris County Mosquito Commission throughout the mosquito control treatment season. A citizen has the right to ask the Morris County Mosquito Commission for specific information about a planned application in the county prior to that application.

If you have any questions about the Morris County Mosquito Commission, please let us know, or visit our web site at www.morrismosquito.org.

Public Notice

In compliance with section 9.10 and 9.15 of the New Jersey Pesticide Control Code (N.J.A.C. Title 7, Chapter 30), the Morris County Mosquito Extermination Commission may be applying pesticides for the control of adult mosquito populations on an area-wide basis, as needed, throughout Morris County during the period of May 1 – November 30, 2007.

The pesticides used will be those recommended by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) at Rutgers University for the control of adult mosquitoes, including malathion (Fyfanon ULV, Atrapa or MicroflowMalathion), resmethrin & piperonyl butoxide (Scourge 4+ 12 or 18+54) or pyrethrin (Pyricide). Products will be applied from the ground by truck, all terrain vehicle or handheld equipment or by aircraft using Ultra Low Volume techniques. All applications will be made according to product labeling.

Contact the National Pesticide Information Center at 1-800-858-7378 for routine pesticide inquiries. Call the New Jersey Pesticide Control Program at 1-609-984-6507 for pesticide regulation information, complaints and health referrals. In pesticide emergencies, call the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System at 1-800-222-1222.

Upon request, the Morris County Mosquito Extermination Commission shall provide a resident with notification at least 12 hours before application, except for quarantine and disease vector control activities, when conditions necessitate applications sooner than that time. We prefer the request in writing, including name, street address and phone number of the residence. Email addresses are also welcome. Updated, detailed information on adult mosquito control applications and all mosquito control activities may be found at the web site- www.morrismosquito.org, or by calling 973-538-3200. Those seeking further information regarding the Morris County Mosquito Extermination Commission may contact Marc Slaff, Ph.D., Superintendent, pesticide license # 26666A at the Commission at 973-538-3200 or by mail at PO Box 405, Morris Plains, NJ, 07950.