



University Park Mosquito Control Program



When it comes to those pesky mosquitos, here is what you need to be aware of for this summer, and what you can do to stop them from causing you trouble.



Take Back Our Yards!

The Asian Tiger Mosquito

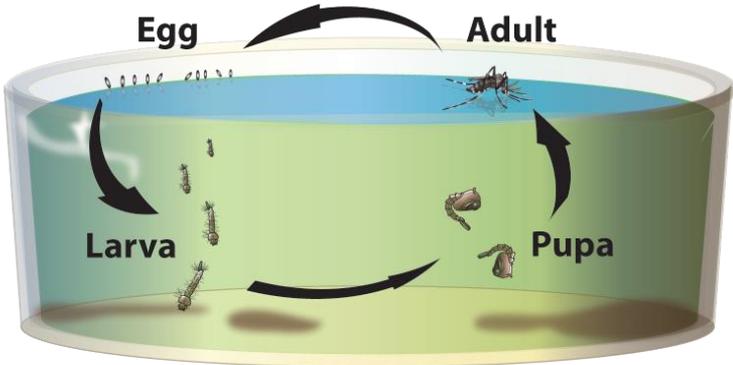
General information

- The Asian Tiger Mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*) is a small, dark mosquito with stripes and banded legs.
- This is the most common mosquito found in University Park Town (yard surveys and trapping data).



- They are strongly attracted to bite humans, but will feed on dogs, cats, deer and other mammals, as well as birds.
- These mosquitoes can use natural habitats (treeholes) and artificial containers (tires, toys, flower pots, etc.) with water to lay their eggs.
- They have a short flight range, less than 200 meters. This means that if there are mosquitoes in your backyard, it must have originated there or just nearby.

- The entire immature or aquatic cycle (from egg to adult) can occur in as little as 8-10 days.



- It bites mainly during the daytime
- Difficult to eliminate UNLESS eggs and egg-laying containers are eliminated
- The Asian Tiger mosquito lays its eggs in water. The larvae MUST live in water for a week before undergoing their complete transformation to a full-fledged adult.

Medical importance

- The Asian Tiger mosquitos are vectors for diseases in humans that include West Nile Virus, Dengue and Chikungunya.
- On April 29th The Washington Post published an article that states that for the first time in the western hemisphere, researchers have detected the Zika virus in the Asian Tiger Mosquito, which

increases the number of U.S states potentially at risk for transmission of the disease

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/new-discovery-means-more-us-states-will-face-a-risk-from-zika/2016/04/29/497ffa98-0d59-11e6-bc53-db634ca94a2a_story.html

- The “Tiger” can also transmit dog heartworm parasites.
- The “Tiger” has also been found infected in nature with Eastern equine encephalitis, and Japanese encephalitis viruses.

The Northern House Mosquito

- The Northern House Mosquito (*Culex pipiens*) is small, mostly plain light brown in color, and legs do not show any distinctive mark like the Asian Tiger mosquito.
- This is the second most common mosquito found in University Park Town.



- As with the Asian Tiger Mosquito, *Culex pipiens* mosquitoes uses standing water to lay eggs, often small containers such as bird baths, barrels, used tires, tin cans, etc.
- The northern house mosquito usually bites at night time (7 pm to 6 am), and sometimes enters homes in the Fall in search of a sheltered place to overwinter.

Medical importance

- The Northern House mosquito is the main vector of West Nile Virus (WNV) in urbanized areas in the northeast and north-central of the United States.
- It is also the most important vector of Eastern Equine Encephalitis.
- The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported 45 cases of WNV in Maryland, of which 5 ended on death in 2015.
<https://www.cdc.gov/westnile>

Examples of Breeding Areas

Uncleaned Gutters and Drainpipes



Puddles in Bins, Lids, or Containers



Yard Equipment



Inflatable pools and kid toys



Birdbaths and ornamental ponds



Plant pots and saucers



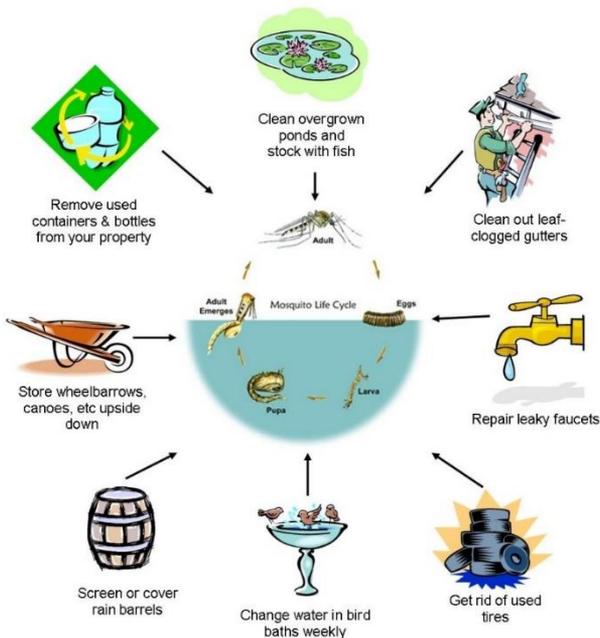
Ornaments and decorations



What You Can Do to Stop the Mosquitoes

As stated, the mosquito eggs and larvae **MUST** grow in water before becoming full-fledged adult mosquitoes. So here is what you can do to eliminate them before they become an issue!

1. Do weekly “**yard surveys**” and tip or remove these water holding containers!



2. Talk to your neighbors about these breeding areas. If you have removed all your water holding containers and still find that you have mosquitoes around, remember that they aren't flying from far away, so **help your neighbor clean up their yard too!**

3. Work with the community to educate the whole town about the issue. **Organize group clean-ups** and help people who may not be able to reach all spots of their yard alone.

4. Check and clean roof gutters, especially in April and May before the mosquito season starts.

5. Keep drains and culverts free of grass clippings, weeds and trash so water will drain properly.

6. Empty standing water from:
 - Potted plants
 - Saucers
 - Birdbaths
 - Pet bowls
 - Yard ornaments that collect water
 - Wading pools and toys
 - Buckets
 - Wheelbarrows
 - Tarps and folds that collect water
 - Boats and canoes

7. Always close the lid of your garbage cans



https://bugmastermobile.files.wordpress.com/2014/08/bug_mosquito_trashcans.jpg

8. Always **turn over** your wheelbarrows, buckets, toys, etc.



https://bugmastermobile.files.wordpress.com/2014/08/bug_mosquito_wheelbarrow.jpg

9. **Maintain ornamental ponds:** aerate ornamental pond using a circulation pump. Also, stock the pond with fish and bti dunks. Your pond would look nicer and free of mosquitoes.



10. Wear long sleeve shirts, long pants, socks and shoes when mosquitos are more active. Try to use light-colored clothing, mosquitoes are more attracted to people in dark clothing.
11. **Apply repellent** such as picaridin, DEET, oil of lemon eucalyptus only to exposed skin and/or clothing.
12. Use mosquito netting over infant carriers, and strollers
13. Install or repair window and door screens to keep out mosquitoes
14. Volunteer to be a **BLOCK CAPTAIN** if you can help with any of the following:
 - Help distribute education materials to your block
 - Sign up your neighbors for yard inspections
 - Help conduct yard inspections
 - Host an informational meeting for your block

For more information or to schedule a **FREE yard inspection** from the town, please call 301-852-1889 or e-mail us at mosquito@upmd.org.

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