

Government of the District of Columbia Department of Health (DOH)

Mosquitoes: What to Know

Several types of mosquitoes are found in the District of Columbia and some of are more common than others. Mosquitoes are active and bite at different times of the day. Not all mosquitoes spread the same diseases. No matter what type of mosquitoes you encounter, ways to protect yourself from bites and reduce breeding sites in your neighborhood are the same.

Mosquito Bite Prevention Tips

- Wear long sleeves, pants, socks and shoes when outside.
- Apply Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved insect repellent to exposed skin and/or clothing as directed by the product label.
- Use air conditioning and make sure screens on windows and doors are secure and not torn.

Mosquito Control Tips

- Empty or throw away water-filled containers.
- Cover or turn over empty items that can collect water.
- Clean and scrub bird baths and pet-watering dishes weekly.
- Report high numbers of mosquitoes or standing water in your neighborhood by calling **(202) 442-5833** or emailing mosquito.info@doh.gov.

Follow the DC Department of Health's mosquito control efforts on social media using:



<https://www.facebook.com/dchealthdept/>



[@DOHDC](https://twitter.com/DOHDC)



[@dchealthdept](https://www.instagram.com/dchealthdept)

#DCFightsTheBite

#DCMosquitoControl

Types of Mosquitoes



Culex pipiens (Most common in DC)

- Yellow color with brown stripes on the body.
- Most likely to bite at sunrise and sunset.
- Can spread: Eastern encephalitis, Japanese encephalitis, Saint Louis encephalitis, West Nile virus.



Aedes albopictus (Second most common in DC)

- Black and white stripes on the body and legs.
- Most likely to bite during the day.
- Can spread: Chikungunya virus, Dengue Fever virus, Heartworm Disease in pets, Saint Louis encephalitis, West Nile virus, Yellow Fever virus, Zika virus.



Aedes aegypti (Least common in DC)

- White stripe down the middle of the body and legs.
- Most likely to bite at sunrise and sunset.
- Can spread: Chikungunya virus, Dengue Fever virus, Heartworm Disease in pets, Saint Louis encephalitis, West Nile virus, Yellow Fever virus, Zika virus.