

Michigan Countywide Mosquito Control Programs

Bay County Mosquito Control

810 Livingston Street
Bay City, MI 48708
(989) 894-4555

www.baycounty-mi.gov/mosquitocontrol

Director: Rebecca Brandt — brandtr@baycounty.net

Midland County Mosquito Control

2180 N. Meridian Road
Sanford, MI 48657
(989) 832-8677

www.co.midland.mi.us/mosquito

Director: Carl Doud — cdoud@co.midland.mi.us

Saginaw County Mosquito Abatement Commission

211 Congress Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48602
(989) 755-5751

www.scmac.org

Director: Bill Stanuszek — stanuszek@scmac.org

Tuscola County Mosquito Abatement District

1500 Press Rd
Caro, MI 48723
(989) 672-3748

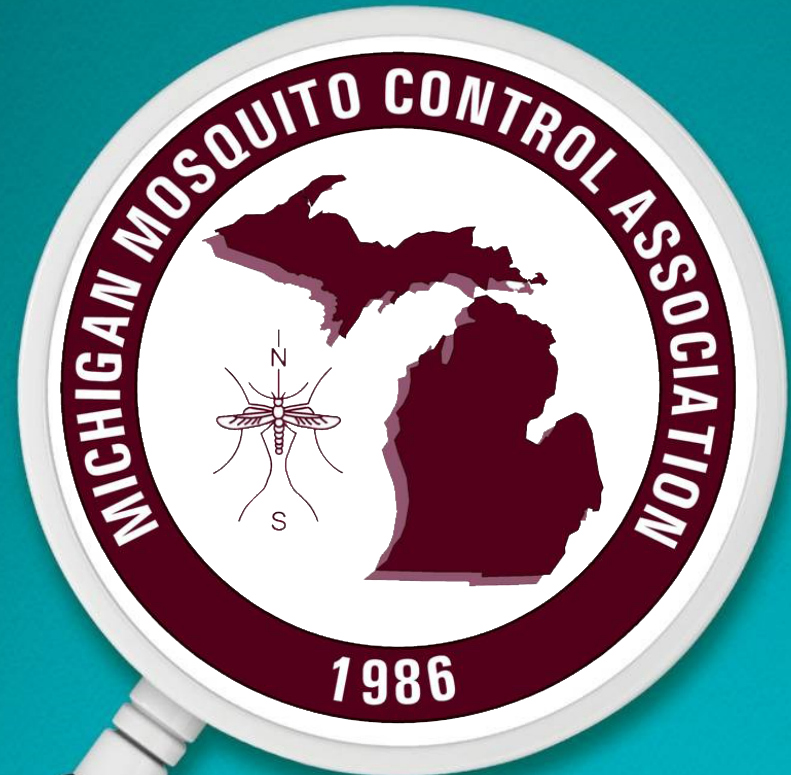
www.tuscolacounty.org/mosquito

Director: Kim Green — kgreen@tuscolacounty.org



Michigan Mosquito Control Association

P.O. Box 366
Bay City, MI 48707
Phone: (989) 894-4555
www.michiganmosquito.org



Organized Mosquito Control in Michigan

Prepared by the

**Michigan Mosquito
Control Association**

WHY CONTROL MOSQUITOES?

PUBLIC HEALTH

The threat of mosquito-borne disease in Michigan is very real. The diseases transmitted by mosquitoes are responsible for illness in both humans and animals. These diseases can be responsible for a variety of symptoms from mild illness to permanent health-related damage and even death. Many people may recover from mosquito-borne diseases, but medical costs can be significant and recuperation time can be long and stressful to both the patient and family. Children and seniors are often most susceptible to these diseases.



QUALITY OF LIFE

When there are fewer mosquitoes, citizens are more comfortable, and therefore spend more time outdoors. Quality of life is improved for citizens by being able to walk, golf, bike, and recreate without mosquito annoyance. If nothing is done to control mosquitoes, a community has to suffer from mosquito infestations.

TOURISM AND WORKER COMFORT

When mosquito populations are excessive, people may be less likely to visit recreation areas or to spend time outdoors. This can cause businesses in these areas to lose revenue. Where the threat of mosquito-borne disease is prevalent, people are more likely to avoid an area. Many of our citizens have occupations that require them to spend time outside. High levels of mosquito populations can cause loss of productivity.

HOW TO CONTROL MOSQUITOES?

INTEGRATED MOSQUITO MANAGEMENT

IMM strategies, endorsed by the CDC and EPA, involve the use of multiple effective and efficient approaches to manage pests while minimizing impact to the environment. The following strategies are used in IMM:

SURVEILLANCE

All control decisions should be based on scientific data. Routine mosquito surveillance is essential for the planning, operation, and evaluation of any effective mosquito control program. Among other things, surveillance identifies disease risk, mosquito populations, and breeding habitats. Surveillance dictates whether the need for control activities is warranted.

EDUCATION AND SOURCE REDUCTION

Education is crucial to the success of a program; public expectations and concerns must be addressed. Informing citizens about mosquito biology, control methods, and eliminating backyard breeding sources is essential. Citizens should also be educated on mosquito avoidance, appropriate protective clothing, and effective repellents such as DEET or Picaridin.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

When control activities are deemed necessary, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved biological and chemical insecticides are used to control mosquitoes while minimizing effects on the environment. All insecticide applications must be made by Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development licensed applicators following label directions.



WHY AN ORGANIZED MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Through planning and preparation, an organized mosquito control program provides a timely, effective IMM response in support of public health. Programs establish credibility by using surveillance, historical data, and sound science to develop informed strategies to guide control activities. Collaboration with agencies in government, public health, academia, and industry partners allow programs to keep apprised of regulations, research, disease risks, and new resources available to better protect our citizens. In addition, programs engage in events to address regulatory, environmental, and industry concerns to our community.

PROACTIVE RESPONSE

The primary purpose of mosquito control is to protect public health from mosquito-borne disease. In order to monitor disease transmission potential, surveillance and testing of mosquitoes and birds takes place. When an area shows increased incidence of disease in mosquitoes or birds, humans may be at higher risk for disease transmission. Targeting these infected areas with mosquito control helps reduce the risk of potential human transmission. Reducing sources of mosquito breeding and controlling mosquito larvae are also imperative. These proactive mosquito control efforts lessen risk of disease transmission and allow programs to respond quickly should a crisis arise.

MORE EFFECTIVE CONTROL OVER LARGE AREAS

Since mosquitoes can easily have a flight distance of a mile or more, control of mosquitoes in one yard will only provide temporary relief at best as mosquitoes will migrate from untreated bordering properties. Township or countywide programs can effectively cover larger areas, affording longer and more efficient protection to citizens.

LOCAL EXPERTISE

When a person or a business is dedicated to a specific job, they are able to gain knowledge over time and build a network of professional resources. Organized programs have historical knowledge of proven disease activity, breeding sources, and successful treatment methods used in a given situation. Treatments are done using licensed, certified applicators with knowledge of application rates and safety protocol which increases confidence from citizens. Programs also provide a local expert to engage stakeholders, educate the public, and handle citizen concerns.

PROGRAM FUNDING AND SUPPORT

The four mosquito control programs in Michigan are funded through county millages. These millages range from .5 to .65 mills. There are also several township programs in Michigan that are funded by a millage. When millages for these programs are up for renewal, approval ratings of 80% or greater have been achieved.

Michigan Mosquito Control Association is an educational resource for communities interested in learning more about mosquito control. MMCA is a 501(c) non-profit organization, consisting of members from government, industry, and academia, dedicated to the health of Michigan residents through responsible mosquito control. MMCA is only a source of information regarding mosquito control and does not provide mosquito control services. MMCA is a sustaining member of the American Mosquito Control Association and a partner in the EPA's Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program (PESP). For more information, please visit the MMCA website at www.michiganmosquito.org.