

FAQs

Q. How do I report mosquito problems?

A. You should call 802-247-6779 and speak to a representative who will forward your information to our operations coordinator.

Q. If I am having an outside gathering at my home can I request a treatment for a specific day?

A: Yes! If you are having a large gathering such as a wedding, graduation, family reunion or the like, contact us at least 4 days ahead and we will try to treat your area the evening before, weather permitting.

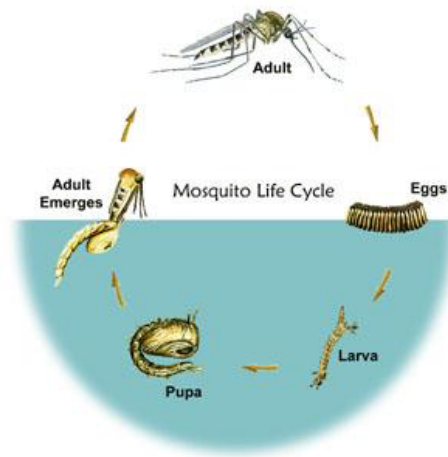
Q. Who are the sprayers?

A. The sprayers are people just like you! They have studied and passed State of Vermont exam 7B, Vector Pest Control (non-public health). Employees must be licensed in order to apply pesticides.

Q. Is the spray hazardous to my health?

The safety profiles of public health insecticides are undergoing increasing scrutiny because of concerns with how the specialized application technology and product selection protect the exposed public and environment. In fact, well over 200 peer-reviewed scientific studies in various national and international journals since 1980 have documented the safety and efficacy of these insecticides when used at label rates.

Mosquito Life Cycle



Understanding the mosquito life cycle helps to understand mosquito control.

Egg: Eggs are laid one at a time and are attached together to form "rafts." They float on the surface of the water. Eggs usually hatch within 48 hours.

Larva: The larva (plural - larvae) lives in the water and comes to the surface to breathe.

Pupa: Within 7-10 days larva enter the pupal stage of development. When development is complete, the pupal skin splits and the adult mosquito merges.

Adult: Male mosquitoes will live about a week and do not bite. The average female life span is about 6 weeks, and she must take a blood meal to develop her eggs. The entire cycle (egg-adult) can be repeated every 2 weeks, so targeting and timing control strategies are a key to a successful program.

OCW Insect Control District

Serving
Brandon ~ Leicester
Salisbury ~ Goshen
Pittsford ~ Proctor

The mission of the Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District is to provide a valuable service to member towns through the suppression of mosquito and other biting insect populations. Without ongoing, effective insect control the quality of life will be adversely affected. The District's Integrated Pest Management Program uses a variety of control methods consistent with public safety, cost effectiveness and minimal adverse impact on wildlife and the environment, including non-target organisms.

OCW, PO Box 188 Brandon,
VT 05733
(802) 247-6779

OCW History

The Brandon, Leicester, Salisbury (BLS) Insect Control District was organized in 1978 in response to a strongly supported local demand that something be done about the mosquito problem. Goshen joined the district in 1989 (BLSG). Pittsford contracted for services for two years and became a full member in 2018. Proctor contracted for services for four years and became a full member in 2023. Our name changed to the Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District in December, 2021.

OCW Adulticide Spraying Routes, Notifications & Opting Out

The OCW has established 17 adulticide spray routes in the six towns being serviced. The maps of these routes can be found on the OCW website under the drop down menu tab "ROUTE MAPS"

Additionally, planned spraying notifications are posted on the OCW website under the "PUBLIC NOTICE" tab.

To opt out from being sprayed follow the protocol found on the OCW website under the drop down menu tab "ADULTICIDE PROGRAM".

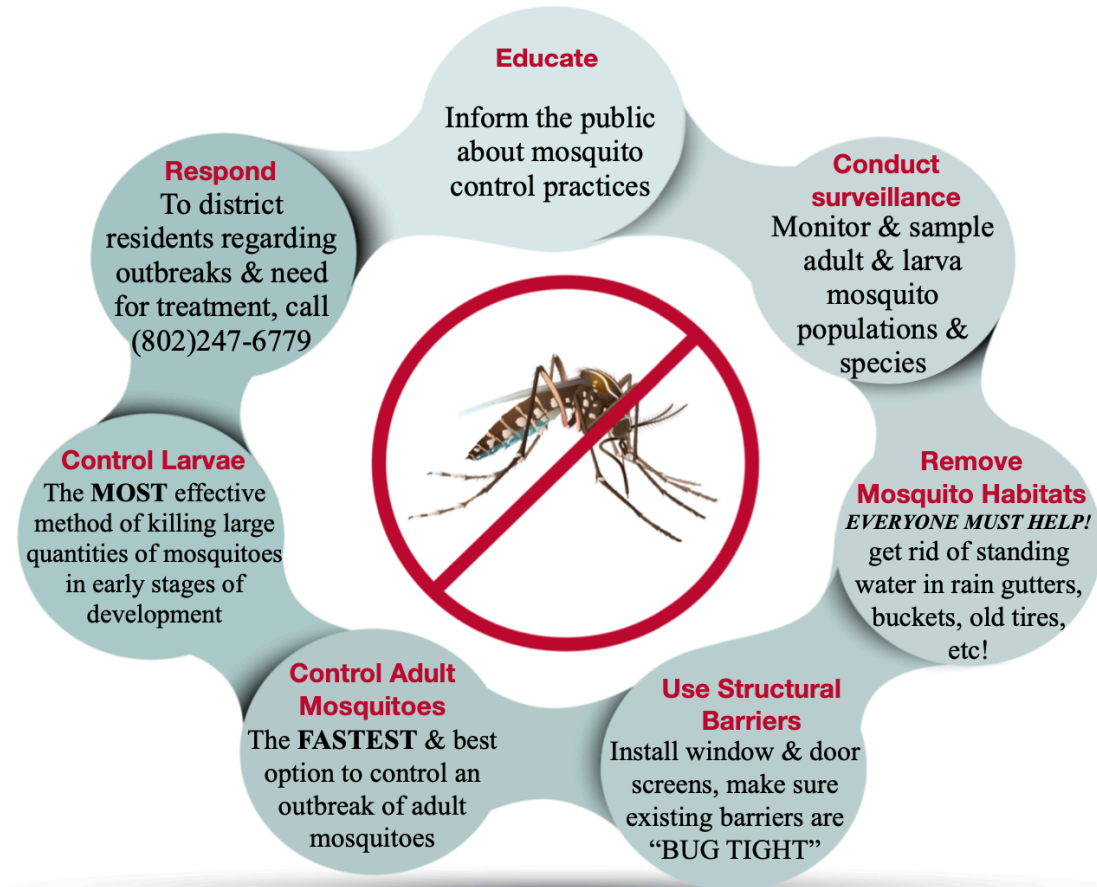
Strategies for Individual Protection

Wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothing. Some of the 45 mosquito species found in VT are attracted to dark clothing & some can bite through tight-fitting clothes. When practical, wear long sleeves & pants. Be aware mosquito species are most active during dusk hours & many are active at dawn.

Choose a mosquito repellent that has been registered by the EPA. Registered products have been reviewed, approved, and pose minimal risk for human safety when used according to label directions. Repellents that are approved and recommended may contain: DEET, Picaridin, and oil of lemon eucalyptus.

Integrated Pest Management Protocol

A community based, research proven, methodology to control mosquito populations and enhance the quality of human life.



For more information see the OCW website
<https://ocwicd.com>