

MOSQUITOES: DID YOU KNOW?



Dark clothing attracts mosquitoes.

Bats and purple martins eat very few mosquitoes. They make up less than one percent of a bat's diet.

Mosquitoes can smell human breath. Receptors on their antennae detect carbon dioxide when you exhale.

If you have a bug zapper by your back door, please move it away. They attract mosquitoes which can enter your home when you open the door.

For more information, contact the Office of Public Works (817) 952-2200



Mosquitoes do not lay eggs in flowing creeks or in chlorinated water. They will lay eggs in stagnant pools or artificial containers and only need a bottle cap of water to lay 100-300 eggs.

The CDC recommends using insect repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535 and some oil of lemon eucalyptus. Don't apply repellents containing permethrin directly to your skin.

Larviciding controls the mosquito population during the egg to pupa stages. It prevents them from reaching the adult stage. The City of Bedford larvicides up to 12 times per year, weather permitting.

The two main mosquito predators are fish and dragonflies. Gambusia (mosquito fish) are in all our creeks within the City of Bedford. Dragonfly nymphs can be found in the creeks and both prey on mosquito larva.

The constant use of an adulticide (fogging) can create resistance between the product and the mosquito and it can take years before the product can be put back into service. Adulticide chemicals will not kill eggs and larva.

The City of Bedford needs your help. Report stagnant water in swimming pools, standing pools of water that have been sitting for more than 4 day and don't blow lawn clippings into the street as they end up in the storm drains. Water and grass is a mixture that we use to make Gravid trap water to catch Culex mosquitoes. This mixture sits in the bottom of storm drains and could be the source of many mosquito concerns. Talk with your neighbors and be pro-active! Look for clogged gutters, tree holes, piles of firewood and run water in French drains once a week to prevent breeding inside the pipes. Help us help you!

