

Did You Know?



- Only females feed on human blood. This provides them with protein to make eggs.
- Males feed on nectar.
- Mosquitoes go through diapause, a form of hibernation so they can survive adverse weather conditions.
- Mosquitoes can breed in any amount of standing water. Scrap tires are a common breeding ground.
- A mosquito has a proboscis, a straw-like mouth, to draw up blood.
- There are about 2,700 species of mosquitoes worldwide, 176 species in the United States, and over 59 known species in Ohio.
- Due to mosquito-borne illnesses, mosquitoes are the deadliest animal to humans worldwide.
- Mosquitoes can detect Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) up to 75 feet away.

Mosquitoes

PROTECT YOURSELF. PROTECT YOUR FAMILY.

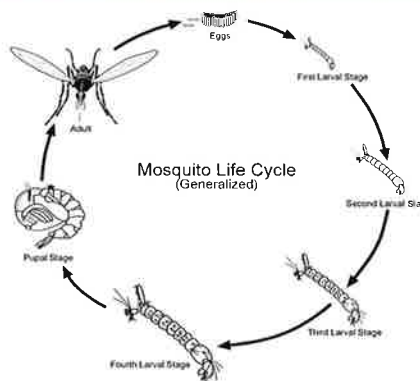


**CARROLL COUNTY
GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT**
Healthy People - Safe Communities

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Note: Each larval stage is larger than the previous one. Molting occurs between each larval and pupal stage. Larval and pupal stages are aquatic.

The Facts About Mosquitoes

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Most mosquito-borne diseases are found near the equator, however that doesn't mean they aren't found in Ohio. Of the 59+ known species of mosquitoes in Ohio, only a few can transmit disease.

Common Mosquito-Borne Illnesses in Ohio

West Nile Virus

Where do you find it?

Most commonly found in western and northern Ohio. It is carried by the Northern House Mosquito (*Culex pipiens*). Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds.

Where can the Northern House Mosquito be found?

Weeds, shrubs, tall grass, catch basins, stagnant water, containers of water with high organic matter (ex: flowerpot saucers, clogged gutters)

When am I vulnerable?

Mosquitoes carrying this disease are most active at dawn and dusk.

Who is at risk?

Anyone who spends time outdoors, Ohioans of all ages, especially adults greater than 50 years of age.

What are the symptoms of West Nile Virus?

80% of those infected show no symptoms. **20%** Experience mild symptoms including: fever, headache, body aches, nausea and vomiting, swollen lymph glands, and/or rash. **1/150** Experience severe symptoms including: high fever, headache, neck stiffness, convulsions, muscle weakness, and/or paralysis. Of those with severe symptoms, 10% of cases are fatal.

La Crosse Virus

Where do you find it?

Most commonly found in eastern and southern Ohio. It is carried by the Eastern Tree Hole Mosquito (*Aedes triseriatus*), an aggressive daytime biting mosquito.

Where can the Eastern Tree Hole Mosquito be found?

Wooded areas, parks, sitting artificial containers, natural tree holes of Silver Maple, Oak, and Beech trees.

How common is the La Crosse virus?

Ohio reported more cases of La Crosse virus than any other state in the U.S., averaging 20 cases per year.

When am I vulnerable?

Mosquitoes carrying this disease are most active during the daytime, May through October.

Who is at risk?

Anyone who spends time outdoors and people who live near wooded areas.

What are the symptoms of La Crosse Virus?

Most people infected don't experience any symptoms. Symptoms show 5-15 days after the bite and can include: fever, headache, nausea vomiting, and lethargy. Severe symptoms, more common in children under 16, include: seizures, coma, paralysis, and variety of neurological complications after recovery. Less than 1% of severe cases are fatal.



Be sure to know the diseases before traveling. Ohioans can bring numerous mosquito-borne diseases home from traveling including:

- Dengue
- Zika Virus
- Malaria
- West Nile Virus
- Chikungunya Virus
- Japanese encephalitis Virus
- Yellow Fever



SELF PROTECTION

It is up to each person to protect themselves and their family against these possibly deadly diseases. Always remember to **Dress, Drain and Defend!**

DRESS Dress to protect yourself and prevent mosquito bites by wearing long bright colored, loose clothing.

DRAIN Drain standing water near your house to prevent mosquitoes from breeding.

DEFEND Defend yourself by wearing EPA approved mosquito repellent containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus on exposed skin and/or clothing. Always follow directions on package.

Mosquitoes
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