Mosquito Control for Zika virus

DISEASE PROFILES

- Zika is a virus that infects humans through the bite from an Aedes mosquito. While the mosquito that typically carries Zika is not found in Ohio, there are other Aedes mosquitoes (the Asian Tiger Mosquito) that live here. Health officials are worried that they could transmit Zika. Aedes mosquitoes generally live in close proximity to humans and bite during the daytime.

- Humans are the host for this virus. A mosquito will get the virus from biting an infected human.

ZIKA HEALTH CONCERNS

1– Zika is a fairly mild disease for adults. Only one in five people end up with symptoms. You may never know if you contract Zika.

2– Zika has been linked to birth defects, especially microcephaly, which makes the brains and heads of a fetus smaller. This can lead to intellectual disability and even death.

3– A fetus may contract the disease from the mother who gets infected by a mosquito bite, but Zika has also been shown to be sexually transmitted. Men retain the virus in their sperm for an unknown length of time and can pass the disease through sex.

RECOMMENDATION:

If Zika is found in our neighborhood, we strongly recommend that men use condoms and that pregnant women take every precaution against mosquito bites.

Break the life cycle in your yard!!

Mosquitoes can cause Dengue Fever, Zika, And Chikungunya, all serious diseases

Adult mosquitoes sole function is reproduction. The larval mosquito is the active aquatic life stage that feeds on organic materials in its water environment. The pupal mosquito is the resting or transition aquatic life stage.
## Artificial Containers

- **Bird baths** should be drained and re-filled at least weekly.
- **Pet food/water bowls** should be emptied and re-filled daily.
- **Flower pots** with bases that hold water should have the excess water drained if the pot is left outdoors.

## Breeding Areas

- **Rain barrels** or other storm water collection containers, should be treated with mosquito larvicides or mosquito fish to prevent mosquito development.
- **Old Tires** hold rainwater and have been implicated as a primary cause of spreading the Asian Tiger Mosquito (Aedes Albopictus), which is the mosquito that lives in Ohio.

## Other Breeding sites and items to look for:

- Discarded cans and plastic containers
- Glass bottles and broken bottles
- Tires, tarps, and plastic sheets
- Outside Equipment, condensation lines
- Barrels, water storage tanks, and livestock troughs
- Obstructed roof gutters, and the upper edge of block walls
- Plant pot saucers
- Holes in unused construction blocks or bricks
- Blocked culverts, downspouts, pipes, and french drains
- Septic system openings

## Behavior - Day-time Biter

- Lives outside, but comes indoors
- May lay eggs indoors
- Lays eggs in artificial containers, anything that can hold water
- Rests in low, shaded areas; under tables, chairs
- Rests inside damp machinery
- Bites low, ankle biters, legs, feet
- Day-time biter – also in lighted rooms at night
- Silent flier – no buzz in your ear
- Very gentle landing on skin and biting not easily felt
- Adults not active under 60°F
- Adults go inactive, not killed by cold
- Eggs laid in containers of water
- Egg to Larva to Adult in one week or less

## How to Protect Yourself

- Stay inside air-conditioned or screened buildings
- Wear long-sleeved shirt and long pants
- Treat clothing with permethrin insecticide
- Use EPA-registered insect repellent according to product label
- Empty containers of water weekly
- Bed netting (treated)