

Mosquito Control:

What You Need to Know About Indoor Spraying



Mosquitoes can spread viruses like West Nile and Zika. They can live inside your home if you don't have screens on windows and doors to keep them outside. If you have mosquitoes inside your home, spraying an insecticide may reduce the number of mosquitoes and your chances of being bitten by a mosquito infected with a virus.

Select and use indoor insect spray products

- ◆ Use indoor insect sprays if you don't have window and door screens.
- ◆ Read product labels and select one that kills mosquitoes.
- ◆ Indoor insect spray products are available as:
 - **Foggers or aerosols:** These products can be used to kill mosquitoes in the air. **WARNING:** You and your pets must leave the home when foggers or aerosols are used. Cover fish tanks. You can return home after the spray has dried.
 - **Sprays:** These products are applied to surfaces where mosquitoes rest. Mosquitoes die when they come into contact with these surfaces. It is safe for you and your pets to stay inside when sprays are applied.
- ◆ Products work immediately. Some may need to be reapplied.
- ◆ Always follow the product label instructions. Do not apply more product than directed or reapply more often than stated on product label instructions.
- ◆ Once dried, products are unlikely to cause health problems.



A man applying an indoor insect spray.

Treat areas where mosquitoes rest

Mosquitoes rest in cool, dark, humid places inside your home, including in closets, showers, and other enclosed spaces, as well as under sinks, counters, tables, and behind furniture.

Take more steps to control mosquitoes indoors

Indoor spraying alone will not keep your home free of mosquitoes. Follow these additional steps to help reduce mosquitoes inside your home:

- ◆ Install or repair window and door screens.
- ◆ Use air conditioning when possible.
- ◆ **Once a week**, empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out any items that hold water, like vases and flowerpot saucers.

Prefer to hire a pest control professional?

Hire a pest control professional to treat your home. The National Pest Management Association offers tips on finding a pest management professional at: <http://www.pestworld.org/pest-control-help/>.

Information on Insecticides and Health:

- ◆ The US Environmental Protection Agency oversees the registration of these chemicals.
- ◆ The National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC) provides information online or through a toll-free number, 1-800-858-7378.

If you are experiencing health problems for any reason, see your doctor or healthcare provider.

Mosquito Control: You Have Options.

Learn more: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention/controlling-mosquitoes-at-home.html>



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