Mosquito Control:

What You Need to Know About Truck-Mounted Spraying

Mosquito control districts or local government departments track mosquito populations to learn where viruses, like Zika or West Nile, are spreading in a community. Truck-mounted spraying is one way to safely kill mosquitoes in an area, especially when people in the community are getting sick from mosquito bites.

Truck-mounted spraying is used to:

- Control and reduce the number of mosquitoes that can spread viruses.
- Reduce your chances of getting infected with viruses.

What are mosquito control trucks spraying?

Mosquito control trucks spray very small amounts of insecticide into the air to kill mosquitoes. This spray is a fine mist that acts as a fogger in the area. Mosquito control districts or local government departments will choose what type of insecticide to use in an area.

What does the spray do?

Adulticide sprays immediately kill flying mosquitoes. Larvicide sprays kill mosquito larvae that hatch from eggs and lasts longer than adulticide sprays. Both products will temporarily reduce mosquito populations in an area, but will not permanently get rid of them.

When does spraying occur?

Spraying takes place in the early evening when mosquitoes are more active. Often, local government agencies or mosquito control districts announce the dates and times of spraying in the local newspaper, on district websites, through public service announcements, by telephone, or through door-to-door notices.

How often do communities spray?

After spraying, mosquito control districts or local government departments will track mosquito populations and treat an area again as necessary to reduce the chances of people getting bitten by mosquitoes that can spread viruses.

Mosquito control truck spraying insecticide into the air
Photo courtesy of Ed Freytag, City of New Orleans Mosquito & Termite Control Board

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.

Is the spray harmful to people or pets?

You aren't likely to breathe or touch anything that has enough insecticide on it to harm you. If you are having any type of health problems, contact your doctor or healthcare provider. The spray does not harm pets, but you may choose to bring them inside when spraying occurs.

What should I do during spraying?

Spraying is safe. You do not need to leave an area when truck-mounted spraying for mosquito control takes place.

Mosquito Control: You Have Options.

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

CS266235-B December 19, 2016

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention