



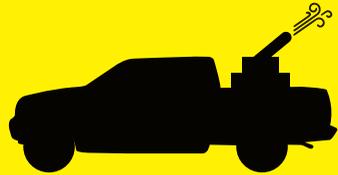
## What is SLAP?

Discover what local officials are doing to control mosquitoes in your community via the SLAP Program.

### Support, Learning, Awareness and Prevention

This brochure will help you identify the personnel who are responsible for protecting your community from mosquitoes, the methods they use and the prevention measures you can take to get the upper hand on mosquitoes.

## Who Can You Count On to Control Mosquitoes?



### Mosquito Abatement Districts (MADs)

These organizations coordinate mosquito surveillance and control activities, and provide public education about reducing local mosquito populations and protecting against mosquito bites.



### Public Health Officials

These health experts, in communities across the U.S., are responsible for identifying and preventing disease outbreaks – including mosquito-borne diseases – and for responding with appropriate measures when outbreaks occur.



### Yourself

There are steps you can take to reduce mosquito populations that go beyond burning citronella candles and spraying yourself with mosquito-repelling products. This brochure will outline some prevention tactics that put mosquito control in your hands.

Learn how you can help reduce the mosquito threat.



Delaware County Mosquito-Borne Disease

Control Program

[www.westnile.state.pa.us](http://www.westnile.state.pa.us)

[www.cdc.gov/westnile](http://www.cdc.gov/westnile)

[www.zika.pa.gov](http://www.zika.pa.gov)

[www.cdc.gov/zika](http://www.cdc.gov/zika)

Getting the Upper Hand on Mosquitoes  
**Support, Learning, Awareness and Prevention**

To access information about mosquito-borne illnesses and discover prevention methods, visit  
**Mosquito-Awareness.com**

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# S



## SUPPORTING

Public Health and Comfort

# L



## LEARNING

About Various Methods of Control

# A



Promoting  
**AWARENESS**

of Populations and Diseases

# P

Sharing  
**PREVENTION**

Tips with Community Members

Mosquito control programs include a variety of methods and EPA-approved treatments to control mosquito populations and support healthy and comfortable communities.

### Adulticiding

Adulticides are used for the control of adult mosquitoes. Some are sprayed directly onto the vegetation and surfaces, which allows for a maximum of four weeks of control. Others are designed to immediately kill populations and can be applied as a fine aerosol mist.

### Larviciding

Larvicides are used to prevent mosquito larvae from developing into breeding, biting adults. While some larvicides work by directly killing larvae, many simply disrupt growth with ingredients that mimic hormones naturally produced by mosquitoes. Placed in potential breeding grounds such as catch basins and ditches, larvicides stop future generations of mosquitoes from emerging.

### Source Reduction

Because mosquitoes breed in standing water, mosquito control programs can include labor-intensive efforts to clear debris from ditches, streams and other water sources to promote drainage.

Knowledge of the science behind mosquito management is constantly growing, and control techniques are always evolving. Because weather patterns and other environmental variables can change the landscape of mosquito-borne diseases and populations, it is integral for mosquito control professionals to stay up to date on new research and clinical trials. In general, industry innovations move towards gentler, more targeted formulations and techniques.

### Integrated Mosquito Management (IMM) Programs

An Integrated Mosquito Management (IMM) program calls for a strategic combination of control methods such as larviciding, adulticiding and source reduction. This reduces dependency on mosquito products, thus lessening the possibility of mosquito resistance and reducing the use of toxic chemicals.

### EPA Reduced-Risk Pesticides

The Environmental Protection Agency categorizes specific mosquito products as "reduced risk." In addition to having a lower impact on human health, these products present a lower toxicity to non-target organisms and are unlikely to cause groundwater contamination and pest resistance. Reduced-risk pesticides can include insect growth regulators, botanical pesticides and even some adulticides.

### How You Can Keep Learning

As a community member, you can stay abreast of new developments in mosquito control. Visit [Mosquito-Awareness.com](http://Mosquito-Awareness.com) to learn more.



### Mosquito-Borne Illnesses

It is essential for officials to understand a community's level of risk and exposure to specific mosquito-borne illnesses. Mosquito control programs often include lab tests that continually monitor the occurrence and prevalence of these diseases. Different mosquito-borne diseases are associated with different species of mosquitoes. Though certain species and illnesses will be present in certain areas, lab tests generally look for the following:

- Zika Virus
- West Nile Virus
- Chikungunya
- Dengue
- Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus (EEEV)
- St. Louis Encephalitis Virus (SLEV)

### Surveillance

Prior to planning out mosquito control protocols, communities must be aware of the size of mosquito populations and the prevalence of mosquito-borne illnesses. Population size is monitored through the use of mosquito traps; mosquito samples are then taken to laboratories, where they are tested for mosquito-borne diseases.

While local officials provide a variety of mosquito control treatments, a large array of preventative measures fall upon community members. That's why it's so important that residents are familiar with best practices for preventing infestations:



- Mosquitoes breed and lay their eggs in standing water, so dispose of old tires, buckets, planters and other containers in your yard that may collect water.



- Empty standing water from all containers on your property, including birdbaths, at least once a week.



- Fill in tree rot holes and hollow stumps that hold water.



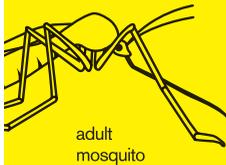
- Clean clogged roof gutters.



- Drill holes into the bottom of tire swings.



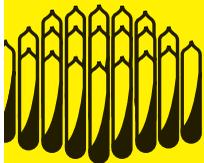
- Make sure all windows in your home have screens in place; repair any holes or tears in screens



adult mosquito



pupa stage



eggs