

Ada County Mosquito Abatement - Larvicide



The Ada County Mosquito Abatement District (MAD) routinely conducts control methods to manage mosquito populations during the prime mosquito season. The use of these control methods help reduce large populations of adult and larva mosquitoes quickly and efficiently. With the continued conscious efforts and collaboration of larviciding, adulticiding, and surveillance activities performed our staff, disease carrying vectors have been kept at bay.

The Ada County MAD regularly conducts larval monitoring during the mosquito season by identifying, locating and treating mosquito breeding habitats year-round in and on new developments, roadside locations, and private and public lands.

Ada County MAD maintains the equipment and staff necessary to control mosquitoes at the larval stage their lifecycle in order to protect the health of Ada County residents and make Ada County a better place to live, work, and play.

Ada County
Weed, Pest & Mosquito Abatement

975 E. Pine Avenue
Meridian, ID 83642

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Mosquito Larvicide Program

Larviciding is the first line of defense in the fight against the West Nile virus. Eliminating mosquito larvae before they hatch into flying, biting adults – especially mosquito species known to carry the West Nile virus – is the Ada County Mosquito Abatement District's highest priority.

Mapping Mosquito Habitat

A female mosquito needs as little as two tablespoons of water in which to lay her eggs – which creates an outstanding number of potential mosquito egg “incubator” sites throughout Ada County. The Ada County Mosquito District currently monitors and treats about 2,400 bodies of water district-wide, and our larviciding team is constantly scouting the county for new mosquito rearing sites that are not recorded in our inventory. When a new site is located, it is mapped with GPS and added to our database.



If you want to know whether a body of water is being treated, contact our office at 577-4646. Prime mosquito habitats are most often in larger bodies of water, but mosquitoes may also lay their eggs in bird baths, fish ponds, abandoned swimming pools, and/or pools formed in over-watered lawns or fields.

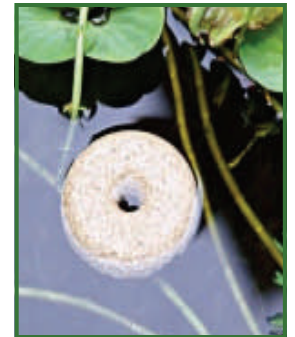
Control Methods



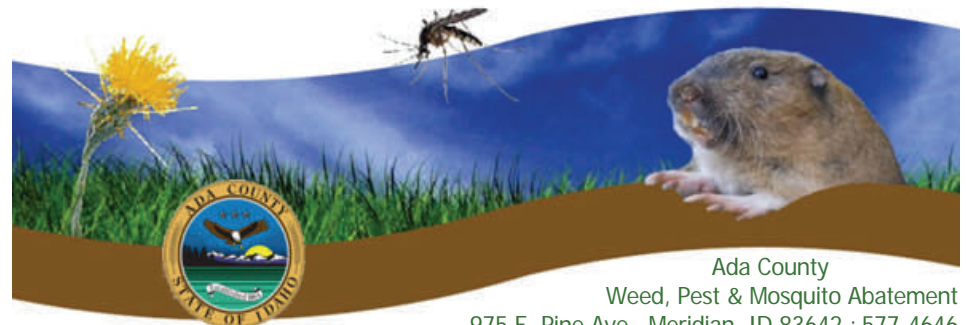
Ada County Mosquito Abatement District has multiple larviciding methods. When possible, the district larvicider will eliminate small incubator sites by simply draining water from incidental collection areas. If the site is a large or permanent water feature, they will dip into the water with a special cup to determine if there are mosquito larvae present. If larvae or pupae are found, the applicator will apply a measured amount of product to the water. Depending on the amount and type of product applied, the applicator will schedule a return visit. An individual applicator will typically visit 20 to 25 sites each day.

Control Products

There are many products to control mosquito larvae and Ada County emphasizes the use of environmentally sensitive measures. One is a bacteria (BMP) that targets mosquito larvae in water. The bacteria only affect the mosquitoes. Aquatic animals, plants and other insects are not affected by these applications.



Another control treatment is a natural wetting agent applied to infested waters that changes the water's surface tension so young mosquitoes cannot get the oxygen they need to survive. At home, you can use inexpensive mosquito “dunks” (pictured above). These are found at major home and garden stores. They are safe to fish, birds and other animals so they are an effective way to control mosquitoes in your ornamental ponds or animal water troughs.



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