



15191 Homestead Road
Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

While the mild winter has produced low levels of mosquitoes, Spring is here and with it comes larger numbers of mosquitoes.

All mosquito species require water to complete their life cycles from egg to adult. Eggs are deposited on water, on the sides of containers that will allow the eggs to be covered with water at a future time or on moist soil. Eggs deposited on moist soil hatch when flooded by water. Rain and tidal activity flood large acres of mosquito habitat. Mosquitoes develop from egg to adult in as little as five days during hot weather and up to a month in cool weather. The mosquito season in Lee County is year-round but peak season starts in May and extends through October. This coincides with high, monthly spring tides and the beginning of rainy season.

It is time to think about taking active steps to protect yourself from pestiferous and possibly disease carrying mosquitoes.

Personal Protection Measures:

- ◆ Apply repellent containing DEET according to the label's directions.
- ◆ Wear light colored clothing with long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- ◆ Avoid being outdoors during peak mosquito activity (from dusk to dawn).
- ◆ Ensure that all window and door screens are secure and functional.
- ◆ Call Lee County Mosquito Control District at 239-694-2174 if mosquitoes increase and impact your daily activities.



Fresh emergence of mosquitoes

To prevent raising your own mosquitoes:

- ◆ Containers - remove, cover, invert, or dump regularly , including saucers under pots
- ◆ Drainage ditches—remove obstructions to water flow such as emergent vegetation and do not leave grass clippings or yard waste in ditches which can act as an attractant to mosquitoes and a food source for larvae
- ◆ Rain gutters - keep clear of debris so that water can drain
- ◆ Rain barrels—cover rain barrels with house screening
- ◆ Ornamental ponds - stock with fish, remove excess emergent vegetation
- ◆ Swimming pools - keep chlorinated and filtered for large pools; empty or flush wading pools weekly
- ◆ Bird baths - change water once a week
- ◆ Bromeliads - flush weekly or treat with appropriate material



**For more information go to
www.lcmcd.org**

or call 239-694-2174