



NORTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT NEMASSMOSQUITO.ORG

Frequently Asked Questions

Barrier and ULV Adulticide for Parks and Schools

What is the “Barrier Treatment” that is being done at the athletic fields and schools?

The Barrier Treatment uses a different material than that used in the street spraying. It is applied to the vegetation along the edges of the areas being treated. It is designed to stick to the vegetation, creating a barrier to mosquitoes, while having no effect on humans that may come into contact with the treated vegetation.

What about my kids at the school playground or athletic fields?

It is recommended that children follow precautions as well and wear insect repellent, long pants and sleeves, and reduce time for outdoor recreation between dusk and dawn. Your town may have scheduled barrier treatments on school grounds, which may have been completed earlier in the season.

Any treatment that takes place on school grounds is in compliance with 333 CMR 14.00 Children and Families Protection Act. Follow this link to learn more
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/333-cmr-14-protection-of-children-and-families-from-harmful-pesticides/download>

What is the Children and Families Protection Act?

The purpose of 333 CMR 14.00 is to promote the implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques and to establish those standards, requirements and procedures necessary to minimize the risk of unreasonable adverse effects on human health and the environment regarding the use of pesticides within a school, daycare center or school age child care program facility.

To view the Children and Families Protection Act follow this link:
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/333-cmr-14-protection-of-children-and-families-from-harmful-pesticides/download>

What are the requirements for notification and signage with Adulticide or Barrier treatments for parks and schools?

NEMMC personnel will post a sign at each entrance to the school property when we conduct an Adulticide or Barrier mosquito treatment, and will retrieve the signs posted after the treatment. When parks are treated, the town usually notifies the residents. When schools are treated, the school administration notifies all parents if the treatment occurs during the time that school is in session. If the school is closed for the summer and there are no school sanctioned events taking place on school property, they don't need to notify.

My property is next to a park or school and I do not want it sprayed; how do I prevent that?

There is a process to request an exemption through the state of Massachusetts; the request form can be accessed here: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/how-to-request-exclusion-from-wide-area-pesticide-applications> . There is a 14 day wait until the request becomes effective.

What pesticides are being used?

Follow this link to see specifically Adulticide products, labels, and SDS sheets:
<https://www.nemassmosquito.org/public-education/pages/adulticide>

Follow this link to see the different products, labels, and SDS sheets that are used by NEMMC:
<https://www.nemassmosquito.org/services/pages/pesticides>

When virus is found and risk is elevated - has the town required that all night time activities be suspended?

It is up to the town if they want to suspend or alter any nighttime activities due to mosquito virus. Keep up with your local community's press releases and social media for the most up to date information.

The state has a tiered risk response system to provide safety guidance to communities. The Arbovirus Surveillance and Response Plan is a good resource for determining outdoor activity. This plan can be found on the Massachusetts Department of Public Health website at this link:
<https://www.mass.gov/lists/arbovirus-surveillance-plan-and-historical-data>

Why didn't I receive a notification about the positive EEE Mosquitoes and the spraying?

You need to be enrolled in the municipal Code Red / Reverse 411 system to receive information and updates relating to mosquito control activities and other important information. Please visit your municipality's website or contact your town/city hall for information on enrolling.

I get calls from the schools all of the time; why didn't I get a call about spraying?

The schools use a different calling system than the town does; the Code Red system allows us to send messages to targeted neighborhoods, which is important from a public safety aspect.

Why do I have to actively enroll in the system? Shouldn't the town automatically be tracking our phone numbers and email addresses?

As more homes eliminate their land-line telephone, we no longer have access to that database. We also cannot track changes in addresses, tenants, and home owners. You are responsible for enrolling yourself in the reverse 911 system.

Will honeybees be damaged by the treatment?

The technicians do not start the treatment until half an hour after sunset, when all bees should be safely back in the hives. The material used dissipates once it dries. There has been no known beehive kills due to pesticide products applied by State Reclamation Board Mosquito Control Districts.

What are the impacts on bees from the pesticide use?

There has been no known beehive kills due to pesticide products applied by State Reclamation Board Mosquito Control Districts. For more information, see the Massachusetts Pesticide Board's website at <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/massachusetts-pesticide-board> or contact Taryn LaScola. Any questions regarding bees, insects, or chemical sensitivity can be directed to Taryn LaScola at the Pesticide Board, Division of Crop and Pest Services and Apiary Program, at 617-626-1776