

# DRAGON MOSQUITO CONTROL, INC.

## JULY 2019 UPDATE

Have you noticed all the mosquitoes, especially at night? It's not just in New Hampshire. There are more mosquitoes just about everywhere and it's not just mosquitoes. Bugs are having a great year. There are also more ants, wasps, deer flies and beetles. Extra insects can be a nuisance, but more mosquitoes increase the risk of disease. In New Hampshire, we have yet to find any mosquitoes carrying disease. However, detection of Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus has occurred just to our south.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) is considered a rare but serious disease caused by a virus spread through infected mosquitoes. Currently, EEE has been detected in 186 mosquito samples in Massachusetts and the number is increasing daily. Massachusetts usually sees mosquito disease activity two to three weeks ahead of southern New Hampshire. Most human outbreaks of EEE occur in late summer or early fall in New England and are often associated with increased rainfall which results in an abundance of mosquitoes. EEE is capable of infecting a wide range of animals, including mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. Humans, horses, and most other infected mammals do not have enough virus in their blood to continue the spread of disease. A third of people who contract EEE die and many survivors have ongoing neurologic problems. No vaccine is available for humans.

One mosquito species has been tormenting everyone who's been outside in the evening this summer. This mosquito is appropriately named *perturbans*. They will fly miles from large cattail swamps and are not effectively controlled through larviciding. A voracious night time biter, it is attracted to white light and readily enters houses. It is a bridge vector for EEE and West Nile Virus. Peak numbers occur in July. We expect their numbers to drop as the summer fades.

Now is the time to prevent mosquito bites. Avoid being outside at dawn and dusk when possible. Use EPA-registered insect repellents found at <https://www.epa.gov/insect-repellents> and cover up by wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants. Keep mosquitoes outside. Check screens on windows and doors for holes where mosquitoes can enter your home. Whenever rain is in the forecast, think mosquitoes. Eliminate mosquito breeding habitats to help reduce the risk. Dump water out of containers such as wheel barrows, buckets, trash barrels, tarps, boats, canoes, bird baths and any other manmade container every time it rains.

More information is available at [www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/arboviral/](http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/arboviral/) and on the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/westnile/>. You can also follow Dragon Mosquito Control Inc. on Facebook to keep up with the latest mosquito news.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Vice President

Dragon Mosquito Control, Inc.

[www.dragonmosquito.com](http://www.dragonmosquito.com)

