

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Tips to keep mosquitos out of your yard.

REMOVE STANDING WATER

Adult mosquitoes lay eggs in stagnant or slow-moving water, so eliminating these water sources can prevent future generations of these pests from calling your yard home.

1

TOSS AND TURN THE STUFF IN YOUR YARD

Remove excess grass, leaves, firewood, and clippings from your yard. Mosquitoes like dark patches of foliage because it serves as a place for them to rest.

2

GROW YOUR OWN REPELLENTS

If you're interested in more natural ways to keep mosquitoes away, there are many plants with mosquito-repelling properties. You may have seen citronella candles, but some gardeners suggest growing the plant itself. Consider also growing pennyroyal, a plant in the mint family that mosquitoes hate because of the smell. Basil and lemongrass are also two good choices, which have higher concentrations of citronella in its oils. Catnip is another choice which has oils that can be as effective as DEET.

3

ADD MOSQUITO-EATING SPECIES TO YOUR ENVIRONMENT

If you've got a pond, adding fish like bluegills, minnows, green sunfish, and gambusia can help control mosquitoes in water.

4

WEAR BRIGHT COLORS

Dark clothing attracts mosquitoes, so wear bright-colored clothing when spending time outdoors. Keep fabrics looser, too, because some mosquitoes can bite through tighter-fitting clothing.

5

PROTECTING YOURSELF WHILE OUTDOORS

Before stepping outside, spray an insect repellent on exposed skin. The Center for Disease Control has identified three ingredients that are effective as long-lasting insect repellents: DEET, Picaridin, and Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus.

6

What the City of Alabaster does to help

1

The city truck sprays all public rights of way on a weekly rotation during early morning hours.

2

The city will treat breeding sites in public areas with natural and biological controls for safe, effective, and environmentally responsible suppression of immature mosquitoes.

3

Treatments are made during peak mosquito activity periods to maximize effectiveness and reduce the possibility of exposure to bees and other non-target insects.

Control measures and treatments employed by the city are designed to reduce adult and breeding populations. The products used are approved by the USDA, EPA, and the World Health Organization to reduce risk associated with mosquito born illnesses. Treatments are in addition to, but not in the replacement of, the measures that individuals can implement to protect yourself, your family, and your pets. There is no way to kill all mosquitoes within the city. However, we can focus on prevention by reducing adult populations to therefore reduce disease transmission.

Alabaster