

**10 THINGS  
 YOU SHOULD  
 KNOW  
 ABOUT  
 MOSQUITOES**



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**MOSQUITOES ARE DEADLY...**

More deaths are associated with mosquitoes than any other insect on the planet. Mosquitoes can carry a number of deadly diseases.

**ONLY FEMALES BITE...**

Female mosquitoes must take a blood meal to reproduce. Since males don't reproduce, they don't bite.

**NOT ALL MOSQUITOES CARRY WNV...**

"Floodwater" or "nuisance" mosquitoes are the ones most likely to bite you. These mosquitoes do not carry WNV. Mosquitoes that carry WNV are Culex pipiens. It is very difficult to tell the difference between "floodwater" and Culex mosquitoes.

**MOSQUITOES ARE BIG DRINKERS...**

While the average mosquito weighs about 2.5 milligrams, they drink more than 5 milligrams—twice their body weight—of blood when they bite.

**WATER IS NEEDED TO BREED...**

Just a few inches of water is all it takes for a female to deposit her eggs. Mosquitoes develop quickly wherever water collects. Drain any standing water to reduce mosquitoes.

**REPELLENT IS BEST DEFENSE...**

Make a habit of using insect repellent with DEET when outdoors. Spray repellent on exposed skin and clothing. Prime mosquito-biting hours are dusk to dawn.

**DEET IS SAFE...**

DEET is safe for both adults and children. Check with your doctor before applying on a baby.

## 10 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MOSQUITOES



### **NOT ALL PEOPLE ARE TARGETS...**

Few children have been reported with WNV. Persons over 50 are most at risk, but it's important for everyone to avoid mosquito bites.

### **SPRAYING IS EFFECTIVE...**

Spraying to kill adult mosquitoes is safe and effective, but only one part of the battle. Practicing personal protection is very important.

### **REACTIONS MAY VARY...**

Mosquito bites cause itching and redness in most people, while other people may have allergic reactions.

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