Most Common Mosquitoes in the U.S.

All about bites

Q: Why do mosquito bites itch?
A: Our immune system responds to mosquito saliva, causing an immune reaction that causes the bite to itch.

Q: What are the symptoms of a bite?
A: Topical treatments include rubbing, wrapping, or applying ice to the bite. If you experience fever, joint pain, nausea, vomiting, or other symptoms after a bite, see a physician right away.

Q: How long do symptoms last?
A: Symptoms can begin immediately, but it may be a few hours before you notice them. Without treatment, they typically last a few days, although they can last longer.

Q: How can I treat bites?
A: Apply a cool, cold compress or antihistamine to the bite area to reduce swelling. Avoid antihistamines by rubbing them in the bite area.

Q: Can mosquito bites make me sick?
A: Some bites, most notably Zika, can become a concern in the U.S. vector-borne diseases can spread through the practice. The Zika virus can cause birth defects, immunosuppression, and yellow fever in humans, among other diseases. See a physician right away if you have any concerns about a bite.

Control & Prevention

How do I keep them away?

What attracts mosquitoes?

- Moisture
- Heat
- Smells

How to prevent your exposure

- Keep your yard clean
- Use EPA-registered mosquito-repellent when necessary
- Replace outdoor lights with yellow "bug" lights

How to eliminate entry points

- Seal window and door screens
- Keep doors closed – including garage doors
- Use an air conditioning window unit

How to remove breeding grounds

- Remove debris from gutters and other standing water
- Change water regularly in bird baths and ponds
- Keep pool water treated and circulating

Don’t let mosquitoes suck up your summer fun. Use this information to learn more about mosquitoes and help prevent them from hanging around your home.