



Maryland Department of Agriculture

Office of Plant Industries & Pest Management

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Mosquito Control Section
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College Park Maryland Regional Mosquito Control Office *Serving Prince George's, Howard and Montgomery Counties* 2026 Mosquito Season

January 2, 2026

Dear Homeowner Association/or Homeowner:

This letter is to inform your Association and the residents in your community of Mosquito Control Services that will be offered by the Maryland Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with your County Government, for the 2026 Mosquito season.

We would like to express our gratitude for being a valued customer of the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Mosquito Control Section over the years. Your Participation in the mosquito control program has always been of great importance to us, and we hope that we have been able to provide you with excellent mosquito control services throughout your county.

Surveillance will be conducted in participating communities to monitor populations of mosquito larvae and adults.

In anticipation that mosquitoes will be at a normal nuisance level as this past year, we must plan ahead for Adult mosquito service which consists of surveillance to monitor and spraying to control adult mosquito populations.

The Mosquito spray program consists of two parts:

LARVICIDING – starts March time-frame through end of late September/or sometimes early October. This is depended upon how bad the mosquitoes are. Larviciding is conducted between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. If you are having issues with mosquitoes, you can call the office on (301) 422-5080 and submit a mosquito complaint or online by accessing [Mosquito Control \(maryland.gov\)](https://www.maryland.gov). Larviciding is conducted by trained and experienced day shift personnel that can treat standing water problems with dry chemicals and liquid chemical for the ditches.

- There is no charge to the community or individual to come out and treat residence, ponds or look for mosquito breeding areas. The county/state picks up all of the bills associated with Larviciding activities.
- If you have a storm water retention pond that occasionally fills up with water and it takes a while for the water to dry up or drain out, we can treat it with dry chemicals. The Altosid Briquettes we use are water activated. Meaning as long as they are submerged in water they can release the growth inhibitor into the water that is present. Once the area dries the briquette will stop releasing the chemical and will wait for it to be submerged again to reactivate. The Altosid comes in 2 kinds, 30 day Altosid will last for 30 submerged days and 150 day will last for 150 submerged days.
- If you have a pond that has fish in it, we can't treat that. The chemicals can have adverse effects on the fish that are in the pond, and most small fish will naturally help control mosquito larvae by eating the larvae. We can, however, place Gambusi (pronounced, Gam-Boo-C) fish into the pond from another stocked pond, if the technician feels that the area is appropriate for sustaining their life. Gambusi are voracious feeders and enjoy a good mosquito larvae buffet.
- If we have to treat the pond with chemicals it is safe for animals and children, unless they somehow get a hold of the actual briquette and ingest it. If this happens, they need to immediately contact the Maryland Poison Control hotline for medical assistance. If a pond or area of water has been treated the water is safe for ingestion and contact with humans or animals. The briquettes can be used in large watering

troughs for animals without concern.

ADULTICIDE – Regular season starts the last week of June through end of September This is depended upon how bad the mosquitoes are. **We also offer early Adulticide service in early May upon request.** The driver will begin spraying between the hours of 6:00 pm and 12:00 am, Monday through Friday.

- A budgetary cost estimate is provided. **No changes to the estimate will be accepted. The amount indicated on the form is an “Estimate only”. The final invoice could exceed this estimate.** If the community agrees, my office will provide the necessary forms that will need to be completed, signed and returned. These forms can be mailed, faxed to (301) 422-5080 or emailed to cp.mosquitocontrol@Maryland.gov. There is no upfront cost. The 2025 bill is due in full around the end of Feb/March timeframe 2026. An invoice will come from Prince George’s, Howard and or Montgomery County Commissioner’s Budget office for payment and will be expected to be paid in full by May 31, 2027 depending on your county area.
- Communities can sign up for the mosquito spray program by contacting the College Park Mosquito control office on (301) 422-5080, Monday – Friday between the hours of 8:00 am until 4:30 pm.
- The community program is a weekly program. Each week the driver will come out on the community’s assigned day and see if conditions are correct for effective mosquito spraying that day.
- We are unable to spray when temperatures are over 90 degrees; if winds are above 10 mph; if it is raining; if the air quality is code Red and if they don’t get mosquito count of 3 mosquitoes within two minutes.
- The chemical (Permanone 30/30) used to spray using ultra high volume air and poses very little threat to most people and pets. Enclosed please find copies of the material safety data sheet and the chemical information sheet provided by Clarke Mosquito Control Product’s, Inc. who manufacture the chemical solution Permanone 30+30 that the Maryland Department of Agriculture Mosquito Control Division uses to spray for the control of adult mosquitoes. This chemical solution is a 4 to 1 mixture (4 parts mineral oil to 1 part chemical). This formulation is at the lowest possible toxicity level possible to still be effective in the control of adult mosquitoes. We have used this EPA approved chemical solution to control adult mosquitoes for at least the past 10 years.

The most effective way to controlling mosquitoes in your neighborhood is at the community’s level. We encourage home and property owners to be proactive in their efforts to control adult mosquitoes by flushing birdbaths and containers under potted plants at least twice a week, properly disposing of old/unused tires, keeping roof gutters and downspouts clean, turning over wheelbarrows, canoes, pails, trash can lids and any other objects that may hold water (including items stored under decks and porches), repairing dripping outdoor faucets, and draining water from tarps and grill covers. Communities are encouraged to report areas of stagnant water to the Mosquito Control office.

If you have further questions or concerns, or would like to schedule a meeting or an inspection, please feel free to call me at office on (301) 422-5080 or email us at cp.mosquitocontrol@maryland.gov. I look forward to working with the community association members and the residents of your community this upcoming season.

Sincerely,
Omari Bernett
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College Park, Maryland 20740