What you need:

- Bucket
- Straw or Hay (funky water from a rain barrel would also work, says Tallamy)
- Water
- Mosquito Dunk (or other brand containing Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt))
- Chicken Wire (or similar) Optional.









Setting Up the Trap

Use an empty bucket:



Add hay or straw to the bucket. I used 3 or 4 handfuls here – 3 or 4 cups.



Add water to the bucket. I fill the bucket up halfway. My ratio of hay to water is about 1 to 4.



Allow the water and organic matter to ferment for a few days. I usually let it sit for 3 days – if it's hot, you probably need less time.

After 3 days, the mixture has fermented. Time to add the Mosquito Dunk.



Place Mosquito Dunk in the bucket on top of the fermenting solution. Dr. Tallamy may know when a mosquito has laid eggs, but I don't; I place the Mosquito Dunk in right before I set the trap outdoors.



Cover with chicken wire (or similar that allows adult mosquitos into the solution, but keeps other critters out). Careful of the sharp points on the chicken wire.

Set in place. Dr. Tallamy recommends a sunny spot; I have placed in dappled shade with good results. The Mosquito Dunk lasts for about a month and I replace the solution after about 3 or 4 weeks.





On top of our deck, I set one under a side table. Under the deck, I set another one on a set of shelves. None of the 3 dogs have shown interest in it after the first couple sniffs. I try to put them close to places we have had issues and keep them out of the way of the dogs getting to them. They should be out of the reach of children as well.

Cleaning up the old solution

Remove the chicken wire and re-use for the next batch.



Strain out the old organic matter and Mosquito Dunk (if there is any obvious solid left). I do this at the drain pipe under our driveway and toss any old Mosquito Dunk solid into the pipe.

Toss the organic matter into your compost pile or trash.



Clean up the old bucket.