

# What You Need to Know About Truck Spraying



The Hamilton County mosquito control program samples mosquito populations to learn where mosquito borne viruses are located. Spraying insecticides from a truck is only one method used to safely kill mosquitoes in a positive virus area, or when there is a diagnosed disease transmission to people from mosquito bites. Ultra Low Volume (ULV) sprayers are used to control adult mosquitoes.

## Truck spraying is used to:

- 1) Control and reduce the number of adult mosquitoes that can spread known viruses in a community.
- 2) Reduce your chances of getting infected with viruses.

## What are mosquito control trucks spraying?

Mosquito control trucks spray very small amounts of insecticide into the air to kill mosquitoes. This spray is a fine mist that acts as a fog in the area. Application rate is based on a 300' max path range at 10 mph.

## What does the insecticide spray do?

Adulticide sprays immediately kill flying mosquitoes. Larvicide sprays kill mosquito larvae that hatch from eggs and lasts longer than adulticide sprays. Both products will temporarily reduce mosquito populations in an area, but will not permanently get rid of them. People must reduce breeding sources.

## When does spraying occur?

Spraying takes place in the early evening when mosquitoes are more active. The dates and locations of spraying are posted on the Hamilton County website, press releases, social media and door-to-door notices. A **Notify Me** service is available to receive text & email messages for county agency updates like Health Spray Schedules.

## How often do communities spray?

Spraying is **ONLY** done in virus positive areas. Due to expense and it being a less effective means of mosquito control the health department can not spray on complaint basis. After spraying, mosquito control staff will sample populations and treat an area again as necessary to reduce the chances of human disease spread.

## Is the spray harmful to people, pets, animals, or the environment?

**No.** Chemicals applied per the product label will not harm people, pets, animals, or the environment. The Health Department achieves safe applications by using licensed personnel, calibrated equipment and following label directions.

## What should I do during or after spraying?

Spraying is safe. You do not need to leave an area when truck spraying for mosquito control takes place. If you prefer to stay inside and close windows and doors when spraying takes place you can, but it is not necessary. If you are having any type of health problems after spraying, contact your doctor or healthcare provider. Applicators take extra measures to shut off chemical flow when people are present.



Mosquito control truck spraying insecticide into the air



Hamilton County Health Dept truck mounted sprayer

### Information on Insecticides and Health:

Office of Indiana State Chemist  
<https://www.oisc.purdue.edu/Phone>:  
765-494-1492

CDC- Centers for Disease Control  
<https://www.cdc.gov/westnile/index.html>

Agency for Toxic Substances and  
Disease Registry (ATSDR)  
<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/>

US Environmental Protection Agency  
[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

**If you are experiencing health problems for any reason, see your doctor or healthcare provider.**

## Mosquito Control: You Have Options.

Learn more: <http://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/323/Mosquito-Control>