

DRAGON MOSQUITO CONTROL, INC.
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March/April Update

It's said that April showers bring May flowers but this year it brought us a nor'easter with wind, snow, rain and sleet, an earthquake, a second mud season, black flies and an eclipse. New Hampshire was lucky to be in the path of totality for the solar eclipse on April 8th. The spectacle was enjoyed by thousands of people in the North Country. Sadly, April showers will also bring us May mosquitoes.

This spring Dragon has:

- Received the State Special Permit for mosquito control
- Distributed our Public Notices
- Sent certified letters to State registered beekeepers
- Updated the No-spray registry for your town
- Received permission from the Dept of Agriculture to start controlling mosquitoes for 2024
- Checked swamps, marshes, woodland pools and ditches for mosquito larvae
- Treated those wetlands when necessary with Bti

Dragon uses a granular insecticide called Bti (*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*) that specifically targets the aquatic larval stage of mosquitoes, black flies and fungus gnats. This naturally occurring bacterium will not harm other insects, including honeybees, people and their pets, mammals, birds, including waterfowl, fish, reptiles, or amphibians. Dragon has been using Bti for decades.

Homeowners can help eliminate the places where mosquitoes lay their eggs by emptying containers that hold water such as buckets, wheelbarrows, pool covers, tarps, toys, trash barrels, canoes and boats. Changing your birdbath water every few days will also make a difference.

Tick season is well underway. Ticks are active once the temperature reaches 40 degrees. Preventing tick bites is an effective strategy to avoid the diseases they carry. EPA registered repellents defend against ticks. You can also take the following precautions to avoid tick bites. Don't walk in tall grass, stay in the center of trails, check yourself and your pets for ticks and shower soon after enjoying outside activities to minimize your exposure.