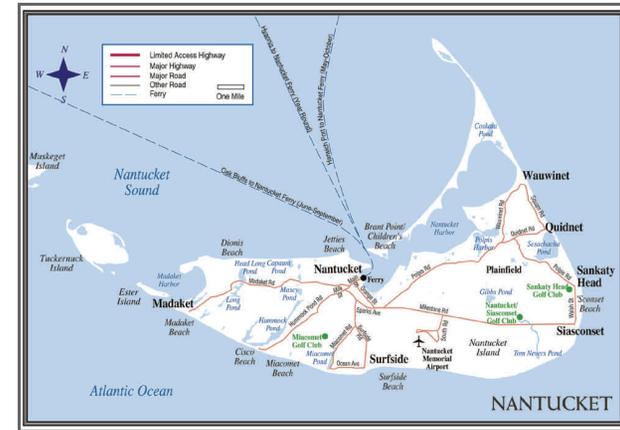
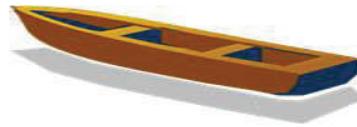


WHERE TO LOOK AND WHAT TO DO!

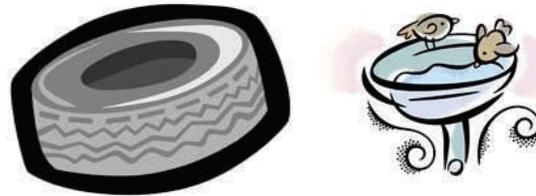


ORNAMENTAL PONDS:

Add goldfish for looks and mosquito control. Avoid spraying with garden insect sprays. Remove leaves and thin out lilies. Keep water level up. Screen inlet of recirculation pump. Chlorine kills fish – transfer fish to glass bowl when cleaning pond. If pond is no longer desired, break holes in the bottom and fill in with dirt or sand.

BOATS:

Prevent accumulation of bilge water and store small boats upside down or cover to keep out of the rain and water from sprinklers – Remember – Nantucket’s most voracious mosquitoes are salt water bred!



CONCRETE OR PLASTIC SWIMMING POOLS:

Operate filter and skimmer every day to remove egg rafts and larvae. Provide drainage for filter and pump sumps. Chlorine will NOT kill mosquito larvae. If pool cover is used, keep it tightly sealed. Remove rain water from top of pool



OTHER KINDS OF CONTAINERS:

Remove and dispose all unused containers that collect rain or water from sprinklers; cans, old tires, jars, buckets, barrels, tubs, bird baths etc.



Useable containers should be stored upside down

ARE YOU RAISING MOSQUITOES IN YOUR BACKYARD ?



Nantucket Board Of Health
Richard Ray Health Director
37 Washington St
508-228-7222

SOME SIMPLE FACTS CONCERNING MOSQUITOES

All mosquitoes must have water in which to complete their lifecycle.

Only seven days are required to complete their life cycle during warm weather.

Mosquitoes do not develop in grass or shrubbery, although flying adults frequently rest in these areas during daylight hours.

Only the female mosquito bites to obtain a blood meal. The male mosquito feeds only on plant juices.

The female mosquito may live as long as three weeks during the summer or many months over the winter in order to lay her eggs during the following spring.



INSECTS THAT RESEMBLE MOSQUITOES

MOSQUITO

Characteristics:

Bites using proboscis

Wings as long or longer than body

Develops in water

May carry disease

CHIRONOMID MIDGE

Characteristics:

Cannot bite

Develop in the mud on the bottom of lakes and ponds

Body longer than wings

About same size as mosquito



CRANE FLY

Characteristics:

Cannot bite

Develop in moist soil or water

Fly very poorly

Usually larger than a mosquito



THE MOSQUITO LIFE CYCLE

EGGS: Different species of mosquitoes deposit their eggs in specific habitats. Those eggs are deposited either singly in moist soil or in the form of rafts on a water surface. These eggs are usually laid in groups ranging between 100 and 400 eggs. Within a few days the eggs hatch into larvae.

LARVA: The larva comes to the surface to breathe through a tube called a siphon. It sheds its skin four times during the next several days. Mosquitoes are called instars between these molts. On the fourth molt it changes into a pupa.

PUPA: The pupa of the mosquito is similar to the cocoon or chrysalis of a butterfly. The pupa cannot eat. It breathes through two tubes on its back. The adult mosquito develops inside the pupal case. In two days or so, when it is fully developed, it splits the pupal skin and emerges as an adult.

ADULT: The newly emerged adult rests on the water surface until it is strong enough to fly away and feed.