

DRAGON MOSQUITO CONTROL, INC.

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June 2024 Monthly Update

June was definitely hot and buggy. NH was lucky the extreme heat and humidity didn't last as long as some parts of the country but it will return. The bugs have endured with every annoying fly pestering us in the yard or in the house: deer flies, horse flies, mosquitoes, cluster flies and more. Deer flies are having a good year.

Scant rain does little to alleviate the dry conditions. Hot dry summers favor disease like West Nile Virus (WNV). Many wetlands have dried up, so our focus turns to man-made containers like catch basins found along the side of the road. Catch basins hold water during dry spells providing an ideal habitat for several species of mosquitoes, all which can carry WNV. Thousands of catch basins are treated with an organic product called Natular, which is a bacterium that controls mosquito larvae. Be sure to dump out water that collects in containers around the yard such as wheelbarrows, trash barrels, buckets, tarps, canoes, etc.

During June, Dragon has:

- Checked wetlands for mosquito larvae
- Treated wetlands when necessary with Bti
- Began trapping adult mosquitoes
- Sent select mosquito species for disease testing at the State Lab in Concord
- Monitored catch basins for larval mosquito activity
- Treated catch basins with Natular
- Sprayed for Salem High School Graduation
- Mapped no-spray requests

Mosquitoes have tested positive for EEE and West Nile in Massachusetts. These early disease test results should put NH on alert for what may be coming our way in 2-3 weeks. As always, avoid mosquito bites by wearing long sleeves and pants, repellent or go inside in the evening when mosquitoes are swarming.