

Public Service Announcement

July 30, 2014

City of Edmonton

Take the bite out of summer

Most mosquito bites are an uncomfortable nuisance, but a small percentage can result in illness. That's why the City of Edmonton is reminding residents to take precautions to protect themselves from mosquito bites as they head outdoors this summer.



Some simple steps residents can take include:

- Wearing long-sleeved, light-colored shirt, pants, and a hat
- Using insect repellent with DEET
- Staying indoors at dawn and dusk, when mosquitoes are most active
- Keeping grass mowed to reduce shady resting spots for adult mosquitoes
- Eliminating standing water by cleaning eavestroughs regularly and by keeping their yard free of old tires, unused buckets and other debris that collect rainwater
- Keeping ornamental pools, ponds, and dugouts free of vegetation around the edges, and adding fish that eat mosquito larvae to these ponds to facilitate natural mosquito control

The City of Edmonton is pleased to partner with Shoppers Drug Mart to offer residents a 20 per cent discount on Life Brand mosquito repellent products at Edmonton and area stores with presentation of a valid coupon. The coupons, along with information on how to better protect yourself, will be distributed by Park Rangers as they patrol in City parks this summer.

The City of Edmonton is one of the few municipalities in Canada with a thorough mosquito control and monitoring program. The City of Edmonton has extensive expertise in Pest Management, which helps the City make appropriate decisions throughout the season when it comes to monitoring and fighting mosquitoes.

Although the City's control program makes a significant difference, it can never completely eliminate the mosquito population. Managing mosquitoes is a shared responsibility and it's important for residents to be informed about what they can do to protect themselves from mosquito bites, as well as how to prevent prime mosquito habitats from developing in and around their homes.

For more information on the City's mosquito control and monitoring program, residents can call 311 or visit edmonton.ca/mosquito.

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