

Rye Mosquito Control Commission

Monthly Update

May 2021

May is a transition month when we go from having no mosquitoes to one day you hear that familiar whine in your ear. Dragon Mosquito has again been hired by the town for mosquito control in 2021. Many spring mosquito species begin hatching from shallow stagnant water and fly off in search of a blood meal. Most are active at dusk and dawn but a few species will fly during the day. Anyone living near or along the coast may have experienced the aggressive daytime pursuit of the summer salt marsh mosquito. This mosquito loves to rest on lush green lawns and will sometimes bite you in full sun which can surprise newcomers to the area. That's why we focus our control efforts on the salt marshes during mosquito season;

Here's the list of work completed in May:

- Finished up the last of the spring larviciding in freshwater swamps
- Assessed larvicide treatments for efficacy
- Began monitoring catch basins for mosquito larvae
- Larvicided salt marshes after the full moon tide

Work tasks coming up in June:

- Set out greenhead fly trap boxes on the salt marshes
- Treat catch basins to control disease carrying mosquitoes
- Larvicide salt marshes after flood tides
- Check freshwater sites after heavy rains
- Begin trapping adult mosquitoes around Rye
- Spray town trails between the Recreation Area and Parsons Field for ticks

Ticks have rebounded after last season's plunge. More people are complaining about ticks than anything else in the yard. Ticks require us to be vigilant while we're outside and once we get back indoors a thorough tick check is advised. Wearing light colored clothing, tucking your shirt into your pants and pants into your socks makes it easier to spot these despicable creatures, hence why it's always good idea to apply repellent.

Timothy E. Sanborn
Chairman