

Mosquitoes - Typical First Strikes by Housekeeping & Maintenance

1. **Remove all sources of stagnant or standing water if possible**, e.g., old tires, bird baths, cans, trash barrels, wading pools, etc., or add Safe Solutions, Inc. Enzyme Cleaners, at a rate of a few drops per 1 gal. water. Don't forget to fill in any low areas that hold water for more than 7 days!
2. Spray the area and drains with Safe Solutions, Inc. #2 Enzyme Cleaner (4 oz. per qt. water) or Safe Solutions, Inc. Enzyme Cleaner with Peppermint (1 oz. per qt. water) or Not Nice to Bugs® (2 oz. per qt. water). Remove or spray bushes and dense shrubbery and vines by doors and patios with hose-end sprayers and enzyme cleaners. Adding xanthan gum to water kills mosquito larvae.
3. Turn on fans to "blow them away." (Note: A misting fan works best.) Sit in the breeze (even if it is from a fan). They will not bother you.
4. Mosquito bite relief: Soak bites in Epsom salt water or apply a paste of salt or protease enzymes mixed into lard or cold cream. Not Nice to Irritations and bentonite clay also help relieve bites and stings.
5. Spraying diluted Safe Solutions, Inc. #2 Enzyme Cleaner (3 oz. - 5 oz. per gallon of water) or Safe Solutions, Inc. Enzyme Cleaner with Peppermint (1 oz. per gal. water) or garlic oil or liquid garlic will control mosquitoes immediately. Garlic, cedar, peppermint or lemon oils or citrus-based sprays also kill mosquitoes and other insects. Safe Solutions Insect Repellent works well as a safe repellent.
6. Rub 4% citronella oil into 96% Vaseline, cedarwood, lavender or soybean oil or scented geraniums on clothing and/or exposed areas or burn citronella candles. CNN 8/28/01: Iowa State says catnip is 10x more effect than DEET. Lemongrass, clove oil, basil, oils of avocado, birch, mint, thyme, pine, rosemary, spearmint and/or yarrow all repel mosquitoes. **Be sure you are not sensitive.**
7. Solutions of aspirin or Ben Gay® or bisabolene or pennyroyal, rubbed on the skin (if you are not sensitive), tansy or scented geraniums planted near a door, or basil plants will repel mosquitoes. Myrrh burned as incense will also repel mosquitoes. **Wear protective clothing or put geraniol or geranium oil, catnip or Noxema, soybean oil or vinegar on the skin if you are not sensitive. Caution: If you are pregnant, don't use pennyroyal, even topically, as it may increase the risk of miscarriage. Note: Citronella oil has been known to attract female black bears.**
8. Practice proper exclusion; repair 16 to 18 mesh screens; seal windows and doors and caulk.
9. Lightly dust the surface of the water with Safe Solutions, Inc. food-grade diatomaceous earth or powdered starch.
10. **Caution - Test anything you want to put on your skin on a small area first.**
11. **Some people are more attractive to mosquitoes than others. Mosquitoes are attracted to dark clothing, carbon dioxide and sweat. Prime feeding times are late dusk and early evening.** Some people react more seriously to mosquito saliva, the chemical that causes the bites to swell and itch. Carry a small "spritzer" bottle filled with diluted Safe Solutions, Inc. enzyme cleaner, apply and rub into to bite area - this will reduce the swelling and itching.
12. Turpentine and eucalyptus oils, garlic extracts, surface oils, extracts of orange and lemon peel will all control mosquito larvae as will water treated with 15% borax, **but be careful not to pollute potable water!**
13. **If you still are seeing mosquitoes, read the entire chapter.**

*Safe Solutions products may be purchased online at:
<http://www.safesolutionsinc.com>
or by telephone at:
1-888-443-8738.

