

We would like to share with you some tips to mosquito-proof your home.

A small word of caution: These tips have helped us control mosquitoes within our own homes. We are however neither pest professionals nor entomologists; we are just like you all, fellow mosquito victims.

1. Outdoor:

- Eliminate any vessel that can store water. Add larvicide pellets to any standing water (order from Amazon: "Mosquito Dunk").
- Watch when you open any door or window to the outside.
- Use "yellow light bulbs" for your outdoor lights. They produce light that mosquitoes and other bugs can't detect. [...*The reason a yellow light works at keeping insects away is because they simply are not attracted to it in the first place. Insects see lights that radiate ultraviolet and blue light best which include black lights, florescent, and metal halide. The lower the ultra violet and blue the less they see them and these include incandescent, high pressure sodium and the yellow incandescent...*]
- Make sure that your window screens are in good shape.
- Cover any water drain with a fine metallic mesh that can still allow the water to flow, especially in the basement and around trash cans. Plastic mesh will be chewed up by rats in a second.
- Pour bleach into drains.

2. Indoor:

- Call the exterminator, but it is costly and not efficient.
- Cover all your drains (sinks, lavatories and shower) especially if they are not used every day. They are an excellent breeding grounds. Also keep the toilet lids down at all times.
- Pour bleach into drains.
- Empty your pets' water bowls every day and replenish with clean water.
- Cover vents with a fine metallic or plastic mesh.
- Cover holes around water and heat pipes, around electrical or audio-visual wires.
- Remove the condensate tray from under your refrigerator, clean it and place a larvicide pellet (order from Amazon "Mosquito Dunk") in it before returning it under the fridge.
- Get an electrical zapper, also called Electric Fly Swatter (Order from Amazon). This is a device that looks like a small tennis racket and emits an electrical shock. It is extremely effective. To borrow from Star Wars: a true Life Saber!
- and the finest of all for a peaceful sleep time, in case of "none of the above works!": acquire a bed mosquito net hanging from the ceiling; an old trick which still works. Kids love it.



Our "311 campaign" to get the attention and focus of the Bloomberg administration is ongoing.

BECAUSE 311 NOW CONSIDERS THE MOSQUITO SEASON "OVER", IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY FILED A 311 COMPLAINT, YOU WILL NEED TO FILE A "INSECT INFESTATION" COMPLAINT. Please follow the guidelines below.

a). Can you please call 311 and report the following - using the same "catch phrases" is important as the 311 system is set up to recognize a certain terminology:

- * Your location

- * If you live in the vicinity of 84th Street, state that there is a "road cave-in" in front of 329 West 84th Street right next to a "Con Edison man hole". There is "stagnant water". Lots of mosquitoes/INSECTS are flying out of the holes. For those beyond 83rd to 85th Street (we were contacted by fellow mosquito victims from all over), try to spot stagnant water locations around you and call 311 to report them.

- * Your experience with the mosquito/INSECT infestation

- * We need to get help from "The Department of Transportation", "The Department of Environment" and the "Department of Health". As a side note, depending on the operator, our calls may get routed to different agencies - this is fine. We ultimately need to reach a higher level of visibility at all these agencies in order for them to start working together effectively.

- * Ask the 311 operator for the log number of your call and email it to mosquito.w84@gmail.com. We are compiling a list of all the logs which will be presented to Gale Brewer, our council representative.

We understand that some of you have experienced difficulties filing a complaint with 311. Having a helpful representative can be a bit of a "hit and miss". It is worth making a second call to get a different operator.

b). Please print this flyer and slide it under your neighbors' doors, and request action within your building.

We need to generate a VERY high 311 call volume.

Our Flyer Campaign.

- PRINT this flyer
 - SLIP some flyers under your neighbors doors.
- NO STREET POSTING IS ALLOWED BY LAW.

Thank you!

The Mosquito Squad