



Mosquito Trapping/ Monitoring FAQ

1. What type of mosquito traps will HHP Vector Control use?

We will use standard CO₂ traps that consist of a 9 inch canister, a fan that hangs below the canister, and a funnel shaped net on the bottom. The whole apparatus hangs about 3 feet from a stable structure or tree in your yard.

2. How does the trap work?

The canister is filled with dry ice that would provide the CO₂ source that will attract the mosquito. There is also a very small light that will also help attract mosquitoes. When mosquitoes get close enough to the trap, the fan blows the mosquitoes into the net and keeps them there until the trap is picked up the following day.

3. Are the traps safe?

Yes. The dry ice is contained in an insulated plastic canister with a tight lid. The dry ice will not come in contact with anything unless the lid is forced open. The fan is about 4 inches in diameter, low power, and harmless. There is also a label on the canister with a city seal that informs people as to the purpose of the apparatus and a caution note reminding people not to open the trap.

4. How long are the traps set for?

Ideally, we would like to set the traps in the afternoon and pick them up in the morning of the following day.

5. I do not have mosquitoes or standing water on my property. Would you still be interested in setting a trap on my property?

Yes. Traps will tell us if there is mosquito activity in your neighborhood, not necessarily coming from your property. If you have no mosquito sources on your property, the traps could at least tell us if there is a source close by.

6. Is mosquito trapping really important?

Absolutely. Mosquitoes are the number 1 disease-causing vectors in the world, let alone the annoyances they cause. But as important as mosquitoes are, the solutions to eliminating sources are very easy and inexpensive provided the sources are located. Monitoring helps us find the source(s). Once a source is found, the Vector Control Technicians will work with property owners and managers to offer simple methods to either eliminate the source or render it not habitable to mosquitoes without the use of chemicals.

7. How will information obtained from trapping be used?

Ideally, we would like to set traps across several properties in a neighborhood. The specimens will be collected the following day and identified as to species, gender, and number of mosquitoes per trap. Male mosquitoes would indicate that the source is close by. The type of mosquito would suggest types of preferred water sources, and the number could point the direction of the source(s). We may set additional traps clustered around the high counts if we are not able to locate the source the first time.