



Frequently Asked Questions

Are the chemicals you use safe?

Yes, the chemicals we use are safe and environmentally friendly. The chemicals we use by ground and air are approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LOAF).

Is the spray safe to breathe?

When applied properly, the ultra-low concentrations will not adversely affect humans, pets or plants. Our chemicals are safe and environmentally friendly, but they are pesticides -- do not stand, play or run behind the spray trucks. Persons with severe allergies should avoid the spray. The spray trucks are like a big can of bug spray, so when you see us coming, please go inside for just a few minutes!

Are the chemicals safe for ornamental fish?

Some of the chemicals we use are hazardous to some species of fish - koi and goldfish. Please contact our office for more information.

How often is the Parish sprayed?

Normally, all areas of the parish are sprayed on a weekly basis. There are conditions when we cannot spray --- rain, high winds or low temperature -- any one of these or combination would cause scheduled spray operations to be cancelled.

Why is one area of the Parish sprayed more often?

When, where and how we spray is determined by our mosquito surveillance. Some areas may have an abundance of mosquitoes or disease activity detected in our sample testing requiring mosquito control operations.

The spray trucks seem to be travelling too fast!

Our spray trucks are calibrated to deliver the optimal dosage of pesticide at 15 MPH (miles per hour).

I saw the spray truck with the lights on but no spray coming out!

Drivers will position themselves, with the spray pump off, in neighborhoods to deliver the spray considering wind and drift as well as avoiding designated "no spray zones" for hypersensitive citizens or bee hives.

I have never seen a spray truck on my road --- does this mean I am not getting sprayed?

Most of our control operations occur at night when mosquitoes are most active or in the early morning (2 hours prior to sunrise) -- our ULV trucks may pass when you are indoors or asleep and do not notice -- this does not mean you are not being sprayed. Our ULV spray generators are designed to be quiet, but if you have a specific problem, please contact our office and we will come directly to your home -- this is a free service to the citizens of Iberia Parish.



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I don't see a cloud of fog coming out the back of the trucks!

Unlike older equipment our modern ULV generators disperse an extremely small aerosol droplet designed to impact on mosquitoes and is often difficult to see at night.

How do I know where and when the airplane will spray my part of the Parish?

Weather conditions for aerial applications must be extremely precise, so it is often difficult to plan far in advance when operations will actually occur. Our office will issue a press release to all available TV, radio, newspaper, hospital, municipal government and emergency response agencies at the earliest possible time, usually a day before, designating where and when operations will be conducted. Please feel free to contact our office for more information.

What are the chemicals used for aerial spraying?

We use Naled, an organophosphate and synthetic pyrethroids both registered and approved for use by the EPA.

Why should I worry about mosquitoes?

Mosquitoes account for more than a million deaths per year around the globe!

Do mosquitoes transmit disease?

Yes, Encephalitis, Malaria, Yellow Fever, Rift Valley Fever, Dengue Fever, West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, St. Louis Encephalitis, dog heart worms and others. Louisiana is home to several mosquito species that transmit deadly viruses to humans and domestic animals.

How can I protect myself from mosquito bites?

Avoid outdoor activity when mosquitoes are most active --- early morning and early evening, wear light, loose fitting clothing with long sleeves and pants, apply repellent containing **DEET**! The EPA and CDC recommend products containing **DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide)**, **Picaridin (KBR 3023)** or **oil of lemon eucalyptus (p-methane, 3, 8-diol)** as active ingredients. Always follow product labels for use. If you have questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Can I have my residence sprayed for mosquitoes?

Yes, for any mosquito related problems please contact our office --- we can spray for mosquitoes, check and treat any breeding sites on your property. We can also spray for special outdoor activities at your home or facility -- just call ahead for proper planning. This is a free service to all citizens in the Iberia Parish.

I have a large canal near my property. Is this why I have mosquito problems?

Most mosquito problems around the home occur due to containers and standing water near or under the home. Large canals usually have sufficient flow and predator populations of fish, therefore, are not sources of abundant mosquito breeding.