

MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM

City of Decatur

Street & Environmental Services Department

256-341-4740



Mosquitoes can carry diseases which afflict humans such as encephalitis, dengue fever, malaria, West Nile Virus, Zika and many other diseases that affect wildlife and domestic animals.

In an effort to protect public health, the City of Decatur uses a three-fold process of mosquito control:

1. **Educating residents** on control measures around their homes.
2. **Larviciding** (placing chemical briquets in drainage areas to eliminate mosquito larvae)
3. **Ultra-Low Volume (ULV) Fogging** with adulticide

If you are having a problem with mosquitoes at your home in Decatur, please call Street & Environmental Services. We will be glad to send someone out for a yard inspection.

In the early spring, larvicide briquets are put into certain areas of our storm water system where larvae have been found. These briquets stop the life cycle at the larval stage.

Our ULV foggers dispense very fine droplets of pesticide/surfactant/water that stay aloft and kill adult mosquitoes on contact. The ultra-low-volume fogging operation takes place Monday through Friday, as needed per our surveillance thresholds and in accordance with state and federal regulations. Fogging is done mainly in the early morning or late evening hours when the adults are most actively flying around. The trucks will not operate during high wind, excessive heat, or in rain. The fogging season is generally from late May through September.

All chemicals used are approved by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). They have been reviewed and registered by the EPA to ensure minimal adverse risk to humans and the environment when used according to the labels.

To minimize impact to bees, an annual list of registered beekeepers in Decatur is obtained from the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries and is given to spray truck drivers. They are instructed not to fog these areas and other areas where there are known beekeepers until after sunset or before sunrise. Please let us know if you are a beekeeper so we can add your location to our no-spray list.

These websites offer more information about mosquitoes, the diseases they can cause, what you can do around your home to reduce breeding, and much more.

<http://www.adph.org/mosquito/>

<http://www.mosquito.org/>

<https://www.epa.gov/mosquitocontrol>