

# DRAGON MOSQUITO CONTROL, INC.

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## May 2025 Monthly Update

Dragon crews spent the spring working in a variety of woodland habitats including cedar swamps and red maple swamps where we can reduce the number of mosquitoes that carry Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and Jamestown Canyon Virus. Even though we may not see EEE until August, decreasing these populations helps reduce the chance of an EEE outbreak.

There's the potential of more EEE activity this season due to the major outbreak in New England last year. This part of the country continues to see equine and/or human cases every year. Risk factors for EEE include significant disease detected in the previous mosquito season, mild winters, above average rainfall and a high water table. We'll keep monitoring mosquitoes, reducing their numbers and tracking other contributing factors as the summer progresses.

Next crews focus on catch basins and other larval habitats that produce a second batch of mosquitoes. Catch basin treatments target mosquitoes that spread West Nile Virus. We continue to use Natular, an organic product listed for use in and around organic food production. Natular meets the highest standards for environmental stewardship.

Ticks are abundant this spring. Blacklegged ticks, dog ticks and most likely Lone Star ticks are in your area. A variety of tick species are competent at transmitting many different diseases. Although Lyme disease is the most prevalent, the alpha-gal syndrome, which is spread by the Lone Star tick, is in the news. Alpha-gal syndrome is a type of food allergy. It makes people allergic to red meat and other products made from mammals including dairy. Symptoms may occur 3-6 hours after exposure. Regardless of which tick bites you, the aim is to avoid all tick borne disease. This is important for your dogs and cats too. Find helpful prevention information and more on Tick Free NH at <https://tickfreenh.org/>.

After a dozen consecutive rainy Saturdays, we hope the rainy weather pattern is behind us so we can get some yardwork done. Prepare for ticks and mosquitoes to be a part of your outdoor activity and use personal protection to reduce your risk.