

Mosquito Abatement Program

The Village has teamed up with Clarke Environmental Mosquito Control to administer our integrated Mosquito Abatement Program. The goals of this program are to reduce nuisance mosquitos to promote the enjoyment of the outdoors and to reduce exposure to mosquito-borne diseases such as West Nile Virus.

The Village of Oswego has contracted with Clarke Environmental Mosquito Control for a sophisticated abatement program. This integrated approach includes mosquito traps for monitoring numbers of insects, prevention of larval mosquito development in stormwater catch basins, and insect-eating fish used in detention basins.

When the mosquito count elevates, the Village will provide adult mosquito control. This is the most effective method for controlling mosquitoes and the West Nile Virus once the insect matures.

West Nile Virus has early symptoms that are similar to the flu. The majority of individuals infected with the disease will never know it. The symptoms will be so mild they will go undetected. In severe cases, the disease may cause encephalitis, paralysis, coma or death. Individuals with compromised immune systems and senior citizens are at the greatest risk. The Center for Disease Control provides a [fact sheet](#) on the West Nile Virus. The Illinois Department of Public Health also maintains a website for this issue at <http://www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/wnv.htm>

Protect yourself during daylight hours, especially at sunrise and just before and after sunset:

- Wear light-colored, long-sleeved tops and long pants.
- Consider applying insect repellent that contains DEET with 14% to 25% Diethylmeta-toluamide to exposed skin (Off® or Cutter® are common brands). For more information on repellents, visit EPA's [website](#).

Prevent mosquito breeding around your home:

- Dispose of all standing water in buckets, cans, or any water-holding container outdoors.
- At least once a week empty water from bird baths and plant-pot drip trays.
- Keep roof gutters clean and free of debris.

Having an outdoor party?

- Use a fogger or spray insecticide on foliage near and around the party site just prior to the arrival of guests.
- Have insect repellent for guests in a prominent place.

For residents wanting to be placed on a call notification list they can call Clarke's Mosquito Hotline at: 800-942-2555. To learn more about Clarke visit www.Clarke.com.