



Common Mosquitoes That Can Spread Disease in Massachusetts

Most mosquito bites will only result in itching or skin irritation. However, some kinds of mosquitoes found in Massachusetts carry viruses (germs) that can cause illness. Information about common kinds of mosquitoes that are most likely to spread disease in Massachusetts is shown below.

Mosquito Species Name	When are they most active?	Where do they live and what kind of water do they like?	What types of animals do they bite?	What time of year are they most common?
<i>Aedes vexans</i>	Dusk/dawn, night	<u>River floodplains and salt-marshes</u> – temporary flooded areas	Mammals/humans	Summer and early fall
<i>Coquillettidia perturbans</i>	Dusk/dawn, night	<u>Woodlands</u> – cat-tail marshes	Birds Mammals/humans	Summer
<i>Culex pipiens</i>	Dusk/dawn, night	<u>Urban areas</u> – artificial containers	Birds, Occasionally mammals/humans	Summer and early fall
<i>Culex restuans</i>	Dusk/dawn, night	<u>Urban areas</u> – natural and artificial containers	Birds, Occasionally mammals/humans	Spring, summer and fall
<i>Culex salinarius</i>	Dusk/dawn, night	<u>Salt-marshes</u> – brackish and freshwater wetlands	Reptiles Birds Mammals/humans	Summer
<i>Culiseta melanura</i>	Dusk/dawn, night	<u>Woodlands</u> – white cedar and red maple swamps	Birds, Occasionally mammals/humans	Spring and summer
<i>Ochlerotatus canadensis</i>	Dusk/dawn, day	<u>Woodlands</u> – woodland pools	Birds Mammals/humans	Late spring through summer
<i>Ochlerotatus japonicus</i>	Day	<u>Urban areas</u> – natural and artificial containers	Mammals/humans	Summer through fall

For information on diseases spread by mosquitoes and how to prevent them: contact the MDPH, Division of Epidemiology and Immunization at 617-983-6800 or visit the MDPH Arbovirus website at <http://www.mass.gov/dph/mosquito>

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