



MOSQUITO SPRAYING KILLS BEES

Residential mosquito control is typically accomplished by spraying, fogging or misting broad-spectrum, non-targeted insecticides – usually a pyrethroid – on plants and shrubs around the home. In addition to killing adult mosquitoes, these pesticides also kill many beneficial insects like bees, butterflies, moths, ladybugs, dragonflies, lightning bugs and more.

Don't Turn Your Backyard Into A Graveyard!

Urban habitats like Decatur are vital to supporting numerous beneficial pollinator species. Before calling a mosquito control service, consider a variety of other pest management strategies first, including:

- Regularly eliminating sources of standing water (flower pots, pet bowls, etc.) where mosquitoes breed
- Keeping rain gutters clear of organic debris
- Adding mosquito “dunks” (BTI) to fountains, ornamental ponds, etc. These larvicides kill mosquitoes before they become biting adults.
- Maintaining your property to limit dense undergrowth that can harbor adult mosquitoes

Collateral Damage

It's easy to see the deadly effects of residential mosquito spraying on honey bee colonies belonging to backyard beekeepers. But Georgia is also home to some 500 species of native bees, most of which are solitary and nest in the ground or in plant stems. These bees and other pollinators are the unseen victims of mosquito barrier treatments and misting systems.



*A local honey bee colony killed by backyard mosquito spraying;
verified by Georgia Department of Agriculture*

Don't Believe The Hype

Terms like "green," "biodegradable," "natural," "derived from flowers," etc. are often used to market residential mosquito control services. These buzz words are intended to make consumers feel comfortable applying pesticides to their properties. Pyrethroid insecticides are enhanced, synthetic versions of natural pyrethrin, which, while derived from Chrysanthemum flowers, is deadly to most insects. Mosquitoes can vector certain dangerous viruses. However, the risk of serious mosquito-borne illness is far lower than that associated with many other daily activities.

Protect Yourself From Mosquitoes

(The same way you protect yourself from the sun!)



< Protect Your Skin

You wouldn't go to the beach without your sunblock! Apply safe, effective insect repellents when outside during mosquito season. Don't like DEET? Choose a product containing Picaridin or Eucalyptus oil.

Timing is Everything

Just like you should avoid sun exposure during peak hours, avoid mosquitoes by limiting activities during times when mosquitoes are most active (dusk and dawn).



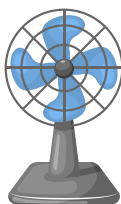
Dress Appropriately >

Rash guards and hats keep you sunburn free during a day at the pool. Protect yourself from biting mosquitoes by wearing loose fitting long sleeves or pants.



< Just Don't Do It

The very young and the very old should take extra precautions whether out in the sun or being exposed to mosquitoes.



< Keep Your Cool

Relaxing under a fan is perfect on a hot, sunny day. Limit mosquito bites by keeping the air moving when chilling outdoors.

LEARN MORE:

BeecaturGA.com/mosquito-spraying

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