

Controlling mosquitoes in your garden

Culiseta annulata is one of the most common species of mosquito found in our rural environment. They normally enter a hibernation state during the winter months in cold dark spaces but can 'wake up' if the ambient temperature increases enough. From early spring and through the summer months mosquitoes lay their eggs in still water and the resulting hatching larvae are solely aquatic and feed on floating algae and detritus. Once fully fed the larvae form a pupal stage that develops into the adult form.

Any source of still water can produce a mosquito population. Water butts, garden ponds, discarded tyres, drains, paddling pools, drainage ditches are all likely candidates.

Removing any standing water in your garden can reduce the number of mosquitoes in your area and can help avoid nuisance biting by mosquitoes. Species may breed in a range of aquatic habitats in gardens, and some of these bite people and may cause a nuisance.



Confirmed native UK mosquitos are not known to transmit disease. As with other insect bites, mosquito bites can cause skin reactions and the irritation caused may result in secondary infection. Mosquito bites can be prevented by covering exposed skin when outdoors. Insect repellent and citronella products can also be an effective deterrent.

Council does not provide pest control treatments - You may wish to contact a private pest control company. Council can provide advice and guidance on identifying and helping to treat common pests. For further information please call 028 276 60257 or alternatively Email: environmentalhealth@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

Adapted from CIEH and PHE 2017 guidance.