

## LFICD 2022 Summer Newsletter:

Aargh! Mosquitoes! Believe me when I say I share your frustration. Here at the Lemon Fair Insect Control District (“LFICD”) we continue to work hard at mosquito abatement practices and field study to better understand the dynamics around the life cycles of 29 species of mosquitoes that have been documented in Weybridge, Cornwall, and Bridport. The LFICD is charged with treating the “commons” of mosquito habitat which primarily make up the Lemon Fair River and floodplain along with the Cornwall Swamp. There are even areas of the Potash Brook (Bridport) that we try to oversee. Most complaint calls come from residences that do not live adjacent to these areas. So where are the mosquitoes coming from? As we address complaint calls and visit properties, we try to determine where mosquitoes may be coming from on your property. We also schedule an evening to set up a CDC (Center for Disease Control) Light Trap overnight which enables us to collect adult mosquitoes. This data not only informs us of the relative numbers of mosquitoes, but also the species. Identifying species helps us determine the types of habitats on your property where mosquitoes may be breeding. From that information, we can help with recommendations for what may be done to reduce the impact of mosquitoes on your property.

Many of the first of season mosquitoes are univoltine; females lay one batch of eggs a season then die. We are already seeing a decline in numbers of mosquitoes in our CDC Light Traps, particularly as weather conditions have been dry. Future rain events significant enough to puddle water in fields and forests will trigger new hatches of multivoltine mosquitoes; mosquitoes capable of reproducing multiple times through the season. The multivoltine mosquito species becomes become more prevalent as the summer progresses.

The LFICD has purchased a new backpack sprayer for larviciding, which allows us to effectively ground treat on small acreages. It has already proven to be effective at eliminating larva and we are glad to have this tool in our "treatment box" for dealing with hotspots of larva as we find them during our field surveys.

Our treatment toolbox also includes helicopter aerial treatment. The aerial treatment is warranted when the Lemon Fair is in flood stage and generating high numbers of mosquito larva on large numbers of acres.

Please stop by the LFICD lab on Saturday, July 23: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM for our Annual Open House to learn more about what we are doing on your behalf. We would also like to hear your concerns. The lab is located right behind the Weybridge Congregational Church, 2790 Weybridge Rd.

Craig Zondag

LFICD Field Coordinator

[www.lficd.org](http://www.lficd.org)