

# Comox Valley Nuisance Mosquito Study

Information Session, March 23rd, 2015

## Introduction

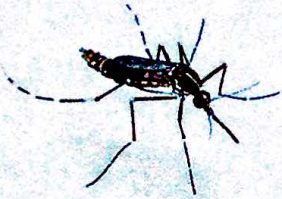
In response to concerns raised by residents over the increased occurrence of nuisance mosquitoes, the Comox Valley Regional District and the Town of Comox have partnered in initiating a study on the problem areas and possible management techniques for these areas. Field Biologists from Current Environmental Ltd. were hired to undergo the preliminary study.

## Areas of Concern

Based on complaints from residents to date, the areas of focus in this study will be the properties surrounding Lazo Road, Kye Bay Road, and Wireless Road (including side roads in these areas).

## Goals of this Study

<b>MAPPING</b>
Identify and map known or potential nuisance mosquito producing water bodies within the areas of concern.
<b>SURVEYING</b>
Initiate mosquito larvae and adult counts and survey ditches for low points. Identify environmentally sensitive features.
<b>RANKING</b>
Rank mosquito producing areas according to density and identify site specific control measures - physical and biological.
<b>PRESCRIBE A MANAGEMENT PLAN</b>
Prescribe a nuisance mosquito control program that explores all reasonable options for control of nuisance mosquitoes without the use of pesticides.



### HELP EDUCATE

- Let your neighbours know this study is happening
- Encourage them to participate in various ways

### PARTICIPATE IN OUR STUDY

- Larvae dipper survey twice a week (April-August)
- Adult survey twice a week at dusk (April-August)

## How can you help?

### AVOID USING HARSH CHEMICALS

- Self treating pools of water with chemicals like chlorine will kill any natural predators of mosquito larvae create an unbalance in these ecosystems
- Wait for the guidance of this mosquito control study to ensure a sustainable solution

### CONSIDER NATURAL CONTROLS FOR YOUR POND

- Increase oxygen by planting native plants
- Install an aerator to keep the water surface moving
- Attract mosquito predators such as bats, swallows, or dragonflies

### REDUCE POTENTIAL HABITAT

- Remove/drain buckets, wheelbarrows, tarped equipment, birds baths, etc. in your yard
- Encourage neighbours to do the same