

MOSQUITO MANAGEMENT: BG-GATS AND BEYOND



ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE
MOSQUITO MANAGEMENT FOR CHEVY
CHASE, BARNABY WOODS, AND HAWTHORNE

MOSQUITOS IN DC: THE PROBLEM

- According to Orkin, Washington, DC's mosquito problem is the third worst in the nation—behind only Atlanta and LA
- Mosquito breeding season typically lasts May-September, or almost half the year
- Mosquito bites affect quality of life, as well as health, of the residents of our foliage-rich, parklike neighborhoods
- NextDoor, other forums highlight the disparate approaches and hot debate over mosquito management by individual residents in our neighborhoods—many of whom state concerns about the effects of pesticides on pollinators

COORDINATED MOSQUITO MANAGEMENT: THE SOLUTION

- According to the CDC, mosquitoes are best managed through [coordinated, integrated programs](#) as opposed to segmented private efforts
- While some neighbors do spray, many are interested in more natural, yet effective methods of mosquito management
- Sligo Park Hills and [University Park, MD](#), [Shepherd Park](#), and others in our area have successfully used Biogents GAT (Gravid *Aedes*) traps to reduce mosquito populations
 - In Sligo Park Hills, mosquito populations were reduced by up to 80% without harming insect pollinators, children, pets, or wildlife
 - Find information on [Sligo Park Hills' 2018 program success](#) online
 - Shepherd Park enjoys [significant community coverage](#) and reduced mosquitos

BIOGENTS TRAP OVERVIEW



BIOGENTS TRAP OPTIONS

- **BG-GAT (Gravid *Aedes* Trap) : Recommended**

- Targets Asian Tiger and *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes that bite in the daytime and carry dengue, Zika, and chikungunya
- Traps mosquitoes that have already bitten and are seeking a place to lay their eggs
- Requires no power, supplemental attractants, or lures—only minimal setup and occasional cleaning or treatment with pollinator-safe BTI
- Available in a neighborhood set of 6 pairs of traps (2 per home)
- \$58/set of 2

BIOGENTS TRAP OPTIONS (CONT'D)

- **BG-Mosquitaire**
 - Higher catch rate than BG-GAT
 - Targets mosquitoes searching for a host to bite
 - Relies on a lure and power source
 - \$189/unit

NEIGHBORHOOD INTEREST

- About 12 households in the Hawthorne neighborhood purchased “pilot” GATs late in the 2020 mosquito season through informal NextDoor queries
 - While interest is a positive sign of potential future adoption, earlier initiation, broader coverage through concerted ANC and block captain and listserv outreach, formal outcome measurement, etc., would improve impact in 2021
 - Hawthorne was able to obtain a 15% neighborhood discount code, which should continue to be available into 2021

NEXT STEPS

- Confirm interest in pilot or coordinated program in 2021
- Identify block captains/POCs to reach out to neighbors to gauge interest, order GATs, and ensure installation/adoption
- Prepare program management structure and POCs
 - Consider data collection, measures to assess program success and increase adoption/decrease mosquito populations into the future

