



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health

Mosquito Control: Adulticiding

Adulticiding is the process of applying a fog of insecticide to reduce the number of adult mosquitoes. The City of Bismarck uses an EPA approved adulticide that contains permethrin as the active ingredient. Permethrin, which is a synthetic pyrethrum, gives this adulticide its insecticidal properties and kills the adult mosquitoes.

The adulticide is applied using a ULV (Ultra Low Volume) fogger mounted onto a truck. The foggers break the adulticide down into very tiny droplets which remain suspended in the air for a short period of time. The adulticide fog does not provide residual or barrier protection against future mosquitoes. Adulticide application sites include walking paths, public recreational areas, and locations hosting large community events. Vector control staff do not fog the entire city of Bismarck.

Mosquito adulticiding is typically conducted in the early morning hours when mosquito activity is high. This type of treatment is only effective if weather conditions are favorable for the presence of mosquitoes and there are adult mosquitoes flying at the time of fogging. For this reason, adulticiding is done in conjunction with larviciding as treatment processes for mosquito control. In addition, the public can help in mosquito reduction by reducing standing water sources on their property, and maintaining their property free of tall vegetation.



Ultra Low Volume fogger mounted on pickup.



Fog remaining after adulticiding.