Meet the Asian Tiger Mosquito

Have you been bitten mainly in the daytime, bitten mostly in shaded areas of your yard or bitten mainly on your feet, ankles and lower legs? If you answered yes, then you might have Asian Tiger Mosquitoes!

*Aedes albopictus* or more commonly known as the Asian Tiger Mosquito is an invasive species to the area that through the tire trade was introduced to the United States in 1985 and first detected in New Jersey in 1995. As you can see the mosquito is highly ornamented and relatively easy to spot even by the amateur entomologist.

It utilizes containers, both manmade and natural, as its primary larval habitat and has even been known to breed in a bottle cap holding water. It is a persistent biter and can be quite a significant pest near its breeding habitat. In addition, this mosquito has the ability to transmit numerous mosquito borne diseases including West Nile Virus, Dengue, Chikungunya and potentially Zika virus.

You can help minimize their impact and slow the progression of this invasive species by emptying any type of container on your property that holds water, change and clean birdbaths once a week and requesting your neighbors do the same. You can also protect yourself by applying an EPA registered insect repellent according to label recommendations being mindful of re-application times.

Reference: [www.morrismosquito.org](http://www.morrismosquito.org) [www.asiantigermosquito.rutgers.edu](http://www.asiantigermosquito.rutgers.edu)

Mosquito Photo Credit: Susan Ellis, Bugwood.org

rev: 14 March 2016