Mosquitos, Tick and Vector Born – Landscaping Stats and Facts



FACTS

1. **Mosquito-Borne Diseases**
    - **West Nile Virus (WNV):** This is one of the most common mosquito-borne diseases in North America.
    - **Zika Virus:** More prevalent in tropical regions, Zika virus can be transmitted by mosquitoes in the USA.
    - **Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE):** A rare but serious disease that can cause severe brain inflammation□□.
1. **Tick-Borne Diseases**
    - **Lyme Disease:** Lyme disease can cause symptoms ranging from a rash and flu-like symptoms to severe neurological and cardiac issues if left untreated□.
    - **Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF)**: This disease causes fever, rash, and can be fatal.
    - **Anaplasmosis and Ehrlichiosis:** These bacterial infections can cause fever, headache, and muscle pain□□.
1. **Other Vector-Borne Diseases**
    - **Black Flies:** Can cause painful bites leading to itching, swelling, and potential allergic reactions.
    - **Fleas:** Can transmit diseases such as plague and murine typhus.

STATS

- West Nile Virus (WNV): The most common mosquito-borne disease in the USA, with a median of 2,205 cases.
- Zika Virus: Although less common, it poses a risk of birth defects if contracted during pregnancy.
- Dengue Fever and Malaria: Cases occur in travelers returning from endemic areas.
- Lyme Disease: The most common vector-borne disease in North America. Ticks are responsible for transmitting Lyme disease, with over 30,000 confirmed cases in the USA each year.
- Vector-borne diseases have been on the rise, with reported cases doubling over the last two decades. In 2018 alone, there were over 47,000 reported cases of vector-borne diseases.

- In British Columbia, arthropod-borne illness is a significant risk. Even those vector-borne illnesses that are reportable to public health (e.g., Lyme disease) are under-reported.
- Nearly one-fourth of emerging infectious diseases (EIDs) in humans are vector-borne, and one-third of these have been identified during the last decade.
- Research shows that only 0.1% of pesticides used for mosquito control on average reach the target pests. For flying insects like mosquitoes, the average is less than 0.0001%, or only one in a million.