

What to do if a Private Company is Spraying the Neighbor's Yard for Mosquitoes and there is "Drift" onto Your Property

For the past several years, the CMPT Environmental Commission (EC) has encouraged residents to forgo hiring private mosquito spraying companies ([see previous article here](#)).

While you have the right to have your property sprayed (we encourage you to thoughtfully consider the negative impact of this spraying service on wildlife—[click here for an article detailing the effects on wildlife](#)), New Jersey has protections in place against "drift" onto your neighbors' properties.

In the past two months, two CMPT residents have asked the EC what a property owner should do if a neighbor has their property sprayed for mosquitoes resulting in "drift."

The purpose of this article is to inform residents of what actions you may elect to take if you experience mosquito spray drift onto your property.

If you suspect that your property has been impacted by drift from a neighboring yard's pesticide application, you may file an incident complaint to the 24-hour DEP Hotline. When reporting an incident or concern, you should provide as much information as you can such as the following:



- Name and address of alleged violator or responsible party (company), if known
- Date of incident
- Time of incident
- Address or site of incident
- Nature of the problem
- Name of pesticides involved, if known
- Application method: hand-held or backpack sprayer, high-pressure hose, etc.
- If any harm or injury, describe the injury or environmental effect

After DEP investigates the incident, the company may be fined by DEP. Additional infractions would result in higher fines and could ultimately result in the loss of a license.

NOTE: In discussing this topic with the DEP investigator, we learned that a fine will not be

levied without “solid proof” of drift (i.e., a video showing drift happening). However, without a video, the company will still be contacted by DEP, notified about the allegation, and receive a warning.

For more information about NJ pesticide management and enforcement, you can visit the Bureau of Pesticide Control’s webpage by [clicking here](#).

DEP Hotline: 1-877-WARN-DEP