

# The best weapon against mosquitoes is YOU!

## Know the life cycle of the mosquito!!

Mosquitoes have four distinct developmental stages: egg, larva, pupa and adult. The average time a mosquito takes to develop from an egg to an adult is approximately 5 to 7 days. Mosquitoes require water to complete their life cycle. Prevent mosquito production by eliminating or managing standing water.

EGG RAFT



Most mosquitoes lay egg rafts that float on the water. Each raft contains approximately 100 to 400 eggs. Within a few days the eggs hatch into larvae.

LARVA



The larva or "wiggler" comes to the surface to breathe through a tube called a siphon. They feed on micro-organisms and organic matter in the water. In a matter of days the larva will molt (shed its skin) four times. On the fourth molt it will change into a pupa.

PUPA



The pupa or "tumbler" cannot eat. It breathes through two tubes on its back. The adult mosquito grows inside the pupal casing and within a few days, when it is fully developed, it will split the casing and emerge as an adult mosquito.

ADULT



The newly emerged adult rests on the surface of the water until it is strong enough to fly away and feed.



**For more information contact:**

**Marin/Sonoma Mosquito & Vector Control District**

595 Helman Lane, Cotati, CA 94931

Monday through Friday 7:00am to 3:30pm

Call **1-800-231-3236** or visit us online at [www.ms mosquito.com](http://www.ms mosquito.com)