How to Get Rid of Crane Flies
Crane Fly Control & Treatment Guide
By DoMyOwn staff

OVERVIEW
Cane Fly Control Options

If you have done a thorough inspection and determined you have enough crane fly larvae for control measures, and your lawn is suffering from crane fly damage, control is likely necessary. Natural predators and insecticides are good options for getting rid of crane fly larva.

STEP 1 Encourage Natural Predators

If you have a moderate population of these pests in your turf, encouraging birds to your lawn, especially in winter and spring, can drastically cut down on populations.

- Set up a bird feeder with bird food that will attract birds in your area to your property.
- Offer shelter and nesting sites, creating a safe environment for birds to live.
- Bird baths can also be attractive, but make sure to change water often.

The more often birds visit your yard, the more likely they are to find and eat the larvae in your turf.

Products needed for Step 1

STEP 2 Insecticide Application

Video Instructions
An insecticide application will kill the crane fly larvae in your turf. There are several products available labeled to control European crane fly larvae, in liquid or granular formulas, that can be applied to your turf.

Products containing imidacloprid and pyrethroids are popular ingredients. Make sure to follow all directions and read cautions and warnings carefully.

Optimal control will be achieved when applied in late summer or early fall, soon after eggs hatch. You can also apply these products in the spring, once temperatures begin to rise.

Always read the label for proper application timings and rates.

**Products needed for Step 2**

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**Crane Fly Treatment Infographic**

(Check to enlarge)