

### Mosquito Retaliation

I hate mosquitoes  
With all of my heart  
Buzzing and biting  
Living, sucking darts  
Squished ones are left on me  
As bloody body art  
An omen to others  
To quickly depart

But yet they persist  
I must give them credit  
We've drained half their wetlands  
If that's a hint, they don't get it  
They mount up on wings  
With sick humor and wit  
And bite me in places  
I hate to admit

They're settling the score  
Retaliation – here's why  
For the wetlands we've mowed, filled  
Or drained completely dry  
They're enlisting their friends  
Like the loathsome black fly  
And signing up birds  
To drop bombs from the sky

Surrender - I'll never!  
Mosquitoes deserve no respect  
But wetlands are worthy  
And useful to protect  
They clean the water for free  
That often we've wrecked  
Are home to more good critters  
Than you'd ever suspect  
So please don't dig, drain or fill them  
As the law does expect

*This is a message from the Sunrise River  
Watershed Management Organization.  
[www.SRWMO.org](http://www.SRWMO.org)  
Wetlands are critical habitat for desirable wildlife,  
filter water before it gets to our lakes and rivers,  
and help prevent flooding.  
Please respect the laws that prohibit filling,  
draining, or excavating in them. Unmowed  
buffers at the edge of wetlands are especially  
valuable.*