

Mosquito Prevention Information

One of the most effective ways of preventing the spread of mosquito-borne viruses is controlling the mosquito population by eliminating standing water around the home and in the yard. **Tip ‘n Toss around your home and yard.** After every rainfall, **tip** out water in flowerpots, planters, children’s toys and wading pools, and buckets. If it holds water and you don’t need it (old tires, bottles, cans), **toss** it out.

For containers that are too big to **Tip ‘N Toss** (bird baths, garden pools), use larvicides such as mosquito dunks or mosquito torpedoes and follow the label instructions. Used properly, larvicides will not hurt birds or animals.

By helping to limit potential breeding grounds for mosquitoes, every resident can contribute to reducing the nuisance caused by mosquitoes and stop the transmission of mosquito-borne diseases.

Residents are always encouraged to follow the 5Ds of mosquito bite prevention:

- **Dusk/Dawn** – Avoid dusk and dawn activities during the summer when mosquitoes are most active.
- **Dress** – Wear loose-fitting, long sleeved shirts and pants to reduce the amount of exposed skin.
- **DEET** – Cover exposed skin with an insect repellent containing the DEET, which is the most effective repellent against mosquito bites.
- **Drain** - Empty any containers holding standing water - buckets, barrels, flower pots, tarps - because they are breeding grounds for virus-carrying mosquitoes.
- **Doors** – Make sure doors and windows are in good repair and fit tightly, and fix torn or damaged screens to keep mosquitoes out of the house.



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