

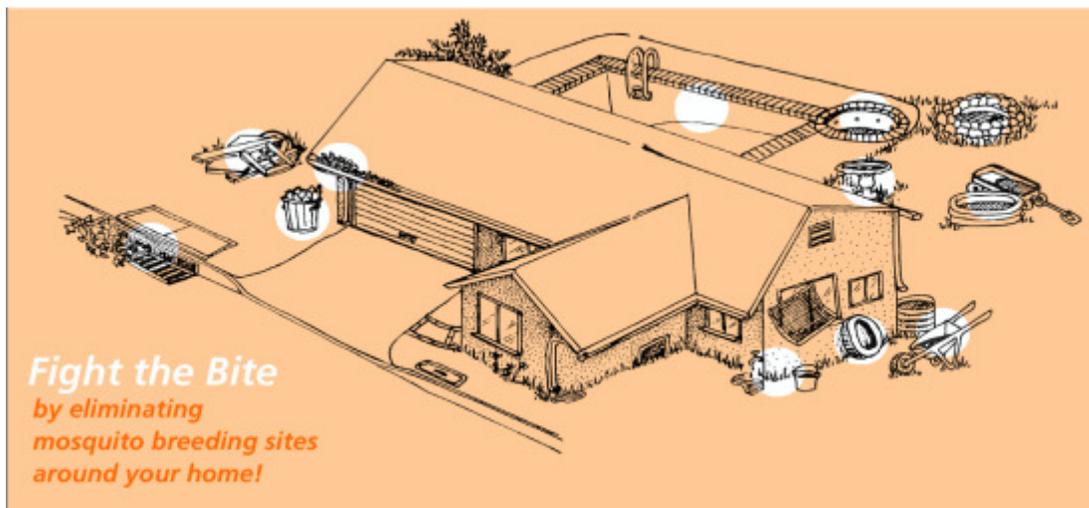


Reducing The Mosquito Population Around Your Home

By late summer, as the temperature and humidity rise, MOSQUITOES just seem to appear, but many of them hibernated over the winter, and are becoming active now. Springtime is the perfect time to begin thinking about and starting to prepare for their appearance. Mosquitoes love moisture and areas of standing water can become breeding grounds for mosquito reproduction. It only takes a couple of days for mosquitoes to lay eggs and have them hatch. So, now is the time to get prepared and make changes.

To reduce the mosquito population around your home and property, take the following steps to reduce or eliminate standing water:

- Dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots or similar water-holding containers.
- Drill drain holes in the bottoms of recycling containers that are kept outdoors.
- Make sure that your roof gutters drain properly, and clean clogged gutters in the spring and fall.
- Turn over wading pools and wheelbarrows when not in use.
- Change the water in birdbaths twice a week.
- Remove all discarded tires from your property.
- Clean vegetation and debris from the edges of ponds.
- Clean and properly chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas and hot tubs.
- Drain water from pool covers. Remove leaves that collect on pool covers, periodically, to prevent breeding sites.
- Use landscaping to eliminate standing water that collects on your property.
- Aerate ornamental pools or stock them with fish. Water gardens are fashionable but become major mosquito producers if they are allowed to stagnate.



Most mosquitoes do not transmit disease. Although it is not necessary to limit any outdoor activities, you can reduce the risk of being bitten by mosquitoes. In addition to standing water in your yard, personal protection when outdoors is recommended.

*This information is provided by the Centers for Disease Control.