GET RID OF STANDING WATER AROUND YOUR HOME

Prevent mosquitoes from breeding



Mosquitoes are more than an annoyance. They can spread disease. Mosquitoes need water to lay their eggs. Even very small amounts of water, in a space as small as a bottle cap, can serve as a breeding ground.

Homeowners are required to remove all standing water from their property. Use this checklist to find and get rid of standing water around your home.

Potential Breeding Site	How to Fix
☐ Trash and garbage	Pick up all trash.
☐ Potted plants with saucers	Dump and clean saucers every three or four days. Do not overwater plants.
☐ Wading pools	Turn over wading pools when not in use.
☐ Bird baths	Clean and change bird bath water at least once a week.
☐ Flat roofs	Remove any standing water that collects on the roof.
☐ Rain gutters	Clean gutters in the spring and fall. Keep clear of debris and make sure water flows through.
☐ Air conditioner/HVAC runoff	Make sure runoff drains and does not collect beneath the unit.
☐ Pet dishes	Rinse twice a week.
☐ Ornamental ponds	Stock with fish, keep aerated or treat with Bti (Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis, e.g., Mosquito Dunks TM).
☐ Tires	Remove unused tires from property.
☐ Lawn clippings and dead leaves	Store leaves and clippings in plastic bags instead of in piles. Do not rake leaves or clippings into street catch basins.
☐ Swimming pools, hot tubs and saunas	Clean and chlorinate pools. Drain, cover or treat with Bti if not in use.
☐ Swimming pool covers	Drain any water that collects on pool covers.
☐ Tree holes and hollow trees	Fill holes with sand.
☐ Trash cans and recycling bins	Keep waste bins covered and drill holes in bottom to help them drain.
Lawns	Do not overwater lawns. Level low points where water might pool.
Outdoor plumbing	Check for and repair any leaks.
☐ Home improvement supplies such as paint cans, buckets and wooden boards	Cover with tarp or turn over home improvement supplies when not in use.
☐ Tarps	Make sure tarps do not collect water.
☐ Wheelbarrows and other gardening supplies	Store indoors or turn over when not in use.
☐ Boats, canoes or kayaks	Turn over when not in use and make sure water does not collect inside.
☐ Large containers that cannot be removed	Fill with sand.