



AVOID THE BITE



Around Your Home

Different types of mosquitoes prefer to lay their eggs in different habitats. Some species prefer woodland depressions or grassy shorelines. Others prefer to lay their eggs in roadside ditches, containers or tree holes. Removing mosquito breeding environments from around your home is the first line of defense against mosquitoes, and one of the most important. Remember, mosquitoes do not need much water to breed.

Take the following steps to protect you and your family:

- Empty containers that can collect water such as buckets, cans and jars, overturned garbage can lids, etc.
- Avoid water collecting on pool covers.
- Turn over or cover anything that can hold water, such as, canoes and other boats, children’s wading pools, and wheelbarrows.
- Change the water and scrub the sides of bird baths, animal troughs, and pet watering dishes at least once a week to eliminate mosquito eggs and larvae.
- Check and empty water from children’s toys that have been left outside.
- Clear debris from roof gutters and roadside drains.
- Change water in vases and pots holding flowers or plant cuttings at least once a week.
- Dispose of unused tires properly, or store where water cannot collect in them.
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers.
- Empty water collected in tarps around the yard or on woodpiles.
- Plug tree holes with sand or mortar and fill in holes or depression in your yard.
- Repair leaky pipes and outdoor faucets.
- Do not blow or rake grass clippings into roadside ditches.



COMMUNITIES – GET THE WORD OUT

- Ask local churches and stores to post information.
- Get neighborhood associations to go door-to-door.
- Partner with various populations including Latinos and Poarch Creek Indians.
- Conduct presentations at schools and Senior Citizen Centers.
- Start a community clean-up program.
- Plan a health fair.
- Encourage organizations with websites to create a link to www.adph.org/mosquito.

CITY AND COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES AND TOWNS

- Distribute mosquito information in city and county areas.
- Keep weeds mowed around banks of ponds, sewage waste lagoons, and lakes.
- Clean out permanent flower beds in cemeteries located within municipalities.
- Clean out water drainage systems such as culverts, storm drains, and roadside ditches that are clogged.
- Hold training programs for mosquito control personnel.
- Contact local news media to promote activities being done in your area.
- Encourage city and county websites to create a link to www.adph.org/mosquito.