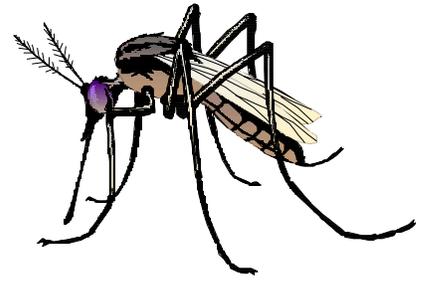


STANDING WATER:

Prevent Mosquito Breeding in Your Yard and Home:



Mosquitoes are a common summer nuisance. They are not only annoying, but they can transmit West Nile virus, encephalitis, malaria and yellow fever to humans, and heartworms to pets.

You can take simple steps to reduce this menace right at home, since mosquitoes can breed right in your own yard.

Standing water means you could be raising mosquitoes!

Adult flying mosquitoes often rest in tall grass and shrubs, but they cannot develop there. All mosquitoes need water to complete their life cycle.

Some mosquitoes lay eggs in standing water where they hatch in just a day or two. Other mosquitoes may lay their eggs in old tires, tin cans or other containers. The eggs may hatch weeks or even months later when the containers have collected water.

After every rainfall, remember to remove any standing water from your yard and help keep mosquitoes from hatching.

- ✓ Throw out or properly store old tires, tin cans, buckets, drums, bottles, or any water-holding containers so they cannot collect water.
- ✓ Fill in or drain any low places (puddles, ruts) in yard.
- ✓ Keep drains, ditches and culverts clean of weeds and trash so water can drain properly.

- ✓ Cover trash containers to keep out rain water.
- ✓ Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets.
- ✓ Empty plastic wading pools at least once a week and store it indoors when not in use.
- ✓ Make sure your backyard pool is properly maintained, especially while on vacation.
- ✓ Fill in tree rot holes and hollow stumps that hold water with sand or concrete.
- ✓ Change the water in bird baths and plant pots or drip trays at least once each week.
- ✓ Keep grass cut short and shrubbery well trimmed around the house so adult mosquitoes cannot hide.

For more information about the West Nile Virus, go to:

www.westnile.state.pa.us



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