

# Prevent Mosquito Bites

## Dump Out Standing Water

Many mosquito problems in your neighborhood are likely to come from water-filled containers that residents can help to eliminate. All mosquitoes require water to reproduce. Be sure to dump any standing water around your house.

- Even the smallest of containers that collect water can breed hundreds of mosquitoes. They don't need much water to lay their eggs. (barrels, buckets, overturned garbage cans, lids, etc.)
- Dispose of tires responsibly. Check with tire dealers in your area. Tires can breed thousands of mosquitoes.
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers.
- Clean pet water dishes regularly.
- Change the water in birdbaths at least twice a week.
- Kayaks, canoes and boats should be turned over.
- Prevent water from collecting on pool covers.
- Remove abandoned swimming pools and hot tubs.
- Empty water collecting in tarps around the yard or on woodpiles.

## Protect Yourself

Wear light colored, loose fitting clothing. Some mosquito species are attracted to dark clothing and some can bite through tight-fitting clothes.

- Use air conditioning or screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes outside.
- Turn off your porch light. It may help keep mosquitoes out of your house.
- Wear long sleeves and pants.
- Using coconut scented soap may reduce your appeal to mosquitoes.
- Avoid being outside at dusk and dawn when possible.
- Use Repellent: Choose a mosquito repellent that has been registered by the Environmental Protection Agency. Registered products have been reviewed, approved, and pose minimal risk for human safety when used according to label directions. Three repellents that are approved and recommended are:
  - DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide)
  - Picaridin (KBR 3023)
  - Oil of lemon eucalyptus (p-methane 3, 8-diol, or PMD)

## Protect Your Animals

- Vaccinate your horses, donkeys, llamas and alpacas for West Nile Virus and EEE.
- Consult your veterinarian about heartworm prevention for dogs and cats.

