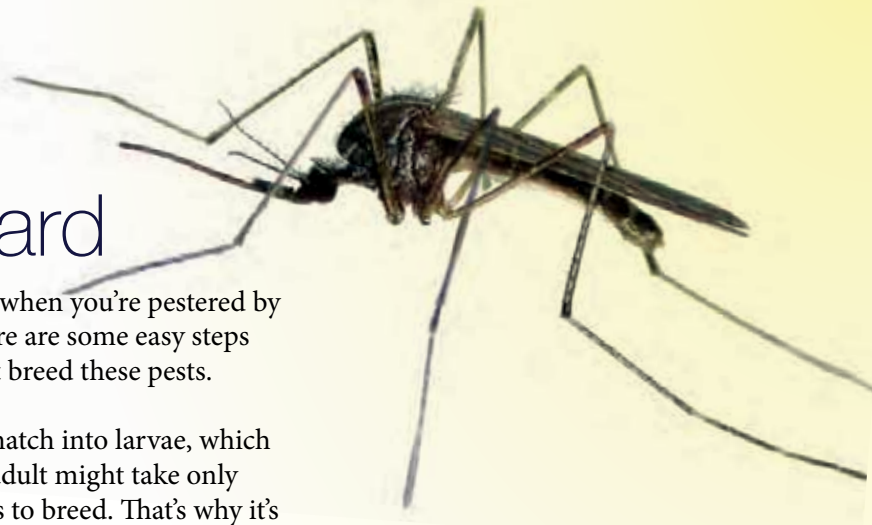


Take the **BITE** Out of Your Backyard



We all want to enjoy the great outdoors, but it's no fun when you're pestered by biting mosquitoes, some of which can carry disease. Here are some easy steps you can take to help reduce conditions in your yard that breed these pests.

Mosquitoes lay eggs in still, standing water. These eggs hatch into larvae, which turn into biting adults. This whole process from egg to adult might take only seven days! Even a teaspoon of water is enough for pests to breed. That's why it's important to tip over items that collect water and prevent standing water from accumulating around your home.



Empty water regularly from

- Buckets, pails and watering cans
- Planter saucers and flower pots
- Candles and candle holders
- Pet dishes
- Children's toys
- Ashtrays

Store these items indoors when not in use and change water twice weekly in

- Bird baths
- Fountains
- Wading pools

Get rid of

- Old tires
- Unused and broken toys
- Trash items

Turn over larger items that collect water or store these items indoors

- Kiddie pools
- Canoes
- Wheel barrels and garden carts
- Wagons

Tighten up sagging tarps to prevent water from collecting in folds and low areas. Tarps may cover

- Woodpiles
- Boats
- Jet skis
- Pools
- Patio furniture
- Outdoor grills

Prevent water from collecting by

- Cleaning gutters of leaves and debris
- Angling downspouts downward, away from the house
- Not using corrugated plastic tubing for downspouts: The grooves hold enough water to breed mosquitoes
- Fixing leaky outdoor faucets
- Eliminating puddles from air conditioning unit condensation
- Making sure rain barrels have tight fitting lids
- Keeping lids on trash cans

Engage in best practices like

- Maintaining your swimming pool with proper chlorine and water circulation.
- Not overwatering your landscaping. Heavy mulch watered to saturation in damp, dark areas is an ideal spot for mosquito breeding.
- Aerating ornamental ponds or stocking them with fish that eat mosquito larvae.
- Re-grading low areas to prevent water from collecting on your property. For example, filling tire ruts near driveways and roads with gravel.

Hire a professional to

- Treat areas like fish ponds, drain tiles, catch basins, and tree hollows and niches with insect growth regulator pellets or granules to keep them from becoming breeding sites.
- Apply a barrier spray during warm months to knock down adult mosquitoes and allow you to enjoy a nearly bite-free outdoor experience.
- Install and maintain a discrete mosquito misting system that controls the pests automatically.

Compliments of

