

Stop mosquitoes from breeding around your home!

A few facts about mosquitoes:

The best way to stop mosquitoes from breeding and biting is to **get rid of standing water around your home!**

Things you can do:

Use repellents to protect yourself from mosquito bites when you're outside.

Twice a week, empty or turn over things that collect water like:

- Trash cans and recycle bins without lids
- Potted plant saucers
- Pet bowls and birdbaths
- Wading pools and children's toys
- BBQs and grills
- Wheelbarrows

Store indoors or throw away:

- Old tires
- Tarps
- Litter like plastic bags, cans and bottles

Fix:

- Drainage—dig ditches so they drain
- Clogged gutters and downspouts

Ponds:

- Buy fish that eat mosquito larvae.
- Be careful not to put these fish into water that drains into streams or rivers. They can harm other fish and wildlife.

Some mosquitoes only need a tiny bit of still or **standing water to lay their eggs.** The eggs hatch after a few days and become mosquitoes within 2 weeks!

Put screens over water you cannot drain in:

- Water barrels
- Drainage ditches you cannot fix
- Boats
- Holes in trees
- Small ponds

Treat water you cannot drain or screen:

- Use *Bacillus thuringiensis* or Bt (sold as “Mosquito Dunks”).
- Bt kills mosquito larvae but is safe for people and animals.
- Bt can be used in small ponds, animal water troughs, holes in trees, etc.
- Bt needs to be replaced every month or when heavy rain washes them away.

Share:

- Connect with your neighbors and HOA (Home Owner’s Association) to give this information to them so everyone can learn how to stop mosquitoes from breeding in your neighborhood.

Mosquitoes **do not travel far**, so getting rid of standing water around your home can make a **BIG** difference!



Spraying for mosquitoes:

- Can help kill adult mosquitoes (not eggs) for special outdoor events, but should not be the main way you control mosquitoes around your home.
- Kills other insects like pollinating bees, butterflies and ladybugs (insects that are good for our gardens).

Always talk to your neighbors before you spray.

If you decide to spray, protect bees by spraying only early in the day before they start feeding.

Wake County Human Services
Communicable Disease Program
919-250-4462 7/16



**Helpful
Resources**

Wake County wakegov.com/pests CDC cdc.gov
NCSU ces.ncsu.edu/depts/ent/notes/Urban/



Common Mosquito Breeding Areas

See other side for more information

