

Fact Sheet

Mosquito Control

Reduce your risk of mosquito-borne disease

Some mosquitoes found in and around your house can cause diseases such as Ross River Virus, Barmah Forest Virus and possibly Dengue Fever. Mosquitoes can also give your dog heart worm.

These mosquitoes breed in water-filled containers or objects such as buckets, pot plant bases, palm fronds, bird baths and old tyres.

By simply cleaning up items that can hold water or emptying out containers in and around your house and yard weekly, you can help stop mosquitoes from breeding. Under the Public Health Regulation householders have a responsibility to prevent mosquitoes breeding on their property.





Addressing mosquito breeding hotspots

Follow these steps to ensure mosquito's do not breed in your backyard:

TIP IT Tip water from containers and objects

STORE IT Store items away when not in use

THROW IT Throw away items you do not use.

Other ways to reduce your risk

- Use DEET or Picaridin based insect repellent
- Ensure houses are screened
- Use mosquito zappers or coils
- Wear long sleeved light coloured clothing.

Check all five breeding hotspots weekly including:

- 1. Ponding Water**
Pools of still and shallow water attract mosquitoes wishing to breed. Fill them with soil or sand and plant over with grass or attractive plants.
- 2. Pot plant bases**
The shallow warmed water in pot plant bases is ideal for mosquito breeding. A pot plant base can support up to 150 mosquito larvae. Place sand in bases to absorb extra moisture and empty bases regularly, wiping each out with a cloth to remove mosquito eggs.
- 3. Blocked Roof guttering**
Clogged and unmaintained guttering prevents rainwater escaping. Keep tree branches away from gutters and check gutters for leaves and obstructions regularly.
- 4. Tyres**
Disused tyres are not only unsightly, they can hold water and provide an ideal warm site for mosquito breeding. Dispose of old tyres appropriately or store them undercover. Drill holes in tyres used as childrens swings to allow water to drain.
- 5. Collections of rubbish**
Not only are collections of disused items around the home attractive to vermin such as rats and mice, they can hold small pools of water for mosquito breeding. Dispose of all disused items around the house at Council's Transfer Station and store items for future use in a tidy fashion, preferably undercover. Ensure drums and other containers capable of holding water are stored upside down.

Other mosquito breeding areas can include:

cavities in bricks, water holding plants such as bomeliaeds and staghorns, bird baths, wading pools, boats and dinghies, flower vases and unstocked fish ponds.

