

# MOSQUITO PREVENTION CHECKLIST



Just an inch of standing water is all it takes for mosquitoes to breed – and West Nile virus to spread even more! Backyard water sources are ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Residents should dump or remove anything that can hold water. If standing water is removed weekly, mosquitoes will not have a chance to breed.

Timely prevention offers the necessary protection for your family and your entire neighborhood, leads to less mosquitoes around the home, and reduces or eliminates the need for pesticides. The checklists below include property maintenance and personal safety tips against West Nile Virus.



## CHECK YOUR HOME FOR BREEDING SOURCES:

- Birdbaths: Clean weekly
- Chain link fence: Cap uncapped fence pipes
- Containers: Cover or turn upside down
- Decorative ponds: Stock with mosquito eating fish that eat larvae
- Drains: Keep outdoor drains flowing freely
- Dumpsters: Keep covered and remove any water inside or underneath them
- Faucets and hoses: Fix any leaks
- Flat roofs: Inspect for puddles after it rains
- Irrigation: Do not over water, and repair areas with standing water
- Lawn ornaments: Check for areas that hold water
- Machinery: Cover and clean any areas that may hold water
- Playground: Drill drainage holes in tire swings and play ground equipment that holds water
- Pools/spas: Drain, cover, or stock mosquito fish in unused pools and spas
- Potted Plants: Do not over water and empty saucers weekly
- Rain gutters: Clean out debris so water flows freely
- Tires: Dispose or drill holes for water drainage
- Tool sheds: Eliminate water around foundation
- Trashcans: Clean weekly and keep covered
- Unused pipes: Store flat so no water collects
- Water troughs for animals:  
Replace water weekly, stock with mosquito fish for larger animal troughs
- Wheelbarrows: Store upright so water does not collect

## PROTECT YOURSELF FROM MOSQUITOES!

- Clothing: Wear long sleeved shirts and long pants when around active mosquito areas
- Dawn/Dusk: Avoid going outdoors if possible because mosquitoes are most active during this time of day
- Repellent: Apply insect repellent containing DEET, Picaridin or IR3535 to exposed skin when mosquitoes are active
- Screens: Install or repair tight-fitting window and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside
- Shrubs: Trim and thin shrubs and bushy plants where mosquitoes tend to hide
- Dead birds: Report dead birds within 24 hours to (888) 551-INFO (4636)
- BTI: A natural bacteria that kills mosquito and fly larvae, but will not hurt animals. It can be put into standing water to prevent development of larvae. Available in hardware and garden stores.



We are doing our part! Help us by doing Yours, by protecting yourself and your home!

Together we  
could fight the bite!  
Let's do our Best  
to Fight the Bite!



To Contact us: 9325 Hazard Way San Diego, 92123 (858) 694-2888

**888-551-INFO (4636)**



**www.SDFightTheBite.com**

# ***STOP WEST NILE VIRUS***

## ***Help Fight The Bite!***

### **PREVENT:**

- ✓ Eliminate all standing water sources around your home such as buckets, pots, and tires
- ✓ Put mosquito fish in decorative ponds and fountains

### **PROTECT:**

- ✓ Repair screens to keep mosquitoes out
- ✓ Avoid going outdoors at dawn and dusk
- ✓ Wear long sleeves & pants when outdoors
- ✓ Use mosquito repellents containing:
  - DEET
  - Picaridin
  - Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus
  - IR3535

### **REPORT:**

- ✓ Report the following to the Vector Control Program:
  - Crows, ravens, jays, hawks, owls and falcons that have died within the last 24 hours
  - Standing water in your neighborhood



**For more information please call:**

**County of San Diego  
Vector Control Program  
888-551-INFO (4636)**

***www.SDFightTheBite.com***