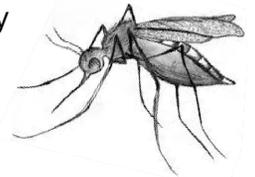


Mosquitoes

Mosquitoes are more than just a nuisance. They can transmit a variety of diseases and parasites to humans and animals.



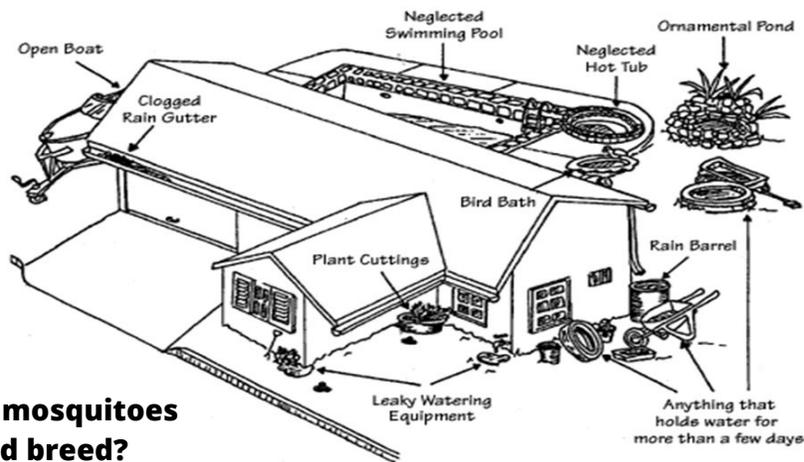
Personal protection against mosquito bites is important, particularly for the elderly and small children.



You can avoid being bitten by mosquitoes by:

- *Applying a repellent that contains DEET, Picaridin, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (follow label directions).*
- *Wear protective clothing such as long-sleeved shirts and pants.*
- *Check and repair all screens and screen doors to keep mosquitoes out of your house.*
- *Minimize outdoor activities at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.*

COMMON MOSQUITO BREEDING SOURCES AROUND THE HOME



Where do mosquitoes live and breed?

- Mosquitoes rest in tall grass, weeds, and brush near inhabited locations such as homes and other buildings.
- Mosquitoes breed in stagnant, standing fresh water oftentimes found around the home.
- In tin cans, buckets, discarded tires and other artificial containers that hold stagnant water.
- In untended pools, birdbaths, clogged rain gutters, and plastic wading pools that hold stagnant water.
- In storm drains and catch basins in urban areas.
- In septic seepage and other foul water sources above or below ground level.
- In agricultural irrigation.
- Whenever water stands for four to seven days, mosquitoes can multiply. Eliminating even small amounts of standing water eliminates mosquitoes.

What can I do to reduce mosquito breeding around my home?

- Dispose of empty cans, buckets, flowerpots, old tires, trash cans, etc.
- Clear clogged roof gutters.
- Change water in bird baths and fountains at least once a week.
- Flush sump pump pits weekly.
- Empty plastic swimming pools when not in use.
- Drain swimming pool covers.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas and hot tubs.
- Drill holes in the bottoms of recycling containers that are kept outdoors.
- Use landscaping to eliminate stagnant water that collects on your property.
- Clip tall grass or weeds standing near the house or where people use the yard. Clean vegetation and debris from the edges of ponds.



For more information:
County of San Luis Obispo
Environmental Health Services
visit our website at
slocounty.ca.gov/Pests