

## ATLANTIC COUNTY DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH



## MOSQUITO-PROOF YOUR YARD

Water + 7 Days = Mosquitoes!

This checklist will help you find and eliminate places where mosquitoes may breed around your home. Anything that holds water can be a home for mosquito larvae. It only takes 7 days for larvae to become an adult mosquito. Stay aware and keep your property free of mosquito breeding habitats.

COMM	ION HOUSEHOLD ITEMS	ACTIONS
	Buckets	Empty buckets and turn them over
	Garbage cans and recycling bins	Use tight fitting lids on garbage cans / drill holes in bottom of recycling
		bins
	Tires	Discard properly or store undercover
BUILDING STRUCTURES		ACTIONS
	Gutters and flexible downspout	Keep gutters clean and free of debris. Pitch extensions so water drains
	extensions	completely
	Leaky hose spigots/outdoor faucets	Fix leak or call a professional plumber
CHILDF	REN'S TOYS	ACTIONS
	Kiddie pools	Empty after each use if possible. Be sure to store indoors or turn upside
		down when not in use
	Big plastic toys, wagons	Keep toys turned over or inside when not in use
	Portable basketball hoops	Make sure caps for fill holes are in place
AROUN	ND THE GARDEN	ACTIONS
	Planters and planter saucers	Dump the water out every 3-5 days or don't use saucers. Drill holes in
		bottom of planter
	Wheelbarrows	Turn upside down or on end.
	Watering cans	Empty and store upside down or inside
	Rain barrels	Cover tops with tightly fitted screen.
	Bird baths	Change water at least every 3-5 days
	Decorative ponds	Stock with fish, aerate or use Bti* to treat for mosquito larvae
	Tree holes	Fill holes with sand/mortar
RECREATION		ACTIONS
	Pools (unused) /pool covers	Empty all the water if possible. If water can't be emptied, treat with
		Bti* (there is no breeding in maintained pools)
	Boats, canoes, etc	Empty all water if possible or if not possible treat water with Bti*. Cover
		boats with taut tarps, boat shrink wrap

\*Bti (Bacilus thuringiensis israelensis) is a low impact pesticide. It is available at many hardware stores, pond supply stores and online. Bti targets mosquito larvae. Be sure to choose a product that is registered with the US EPA, labeled for mosquito larva. Closely follow directions on the label. You may only use these products on your property.

## PERSONAL PROTECTION

- Limit outdoor activity during dusk, dawn and early evening hours
- Wear long sleeved shirts, pants, and socks when outdoors
- Avoid areas with heavy underbrush and trees
- Use insect repellent containing DEET, Picaridin or lemon eucalyptus and carefully follow directions. If using sunscreen, apply first then apply insect repellent
- Ensure that screens are free of holes and in good condition

For additional information: www.atlanticcountynj.gov/public-health/ or call 609-645-5971 www.nj.gov/health/cd

www.cdc.gov