

# Drain and Cover

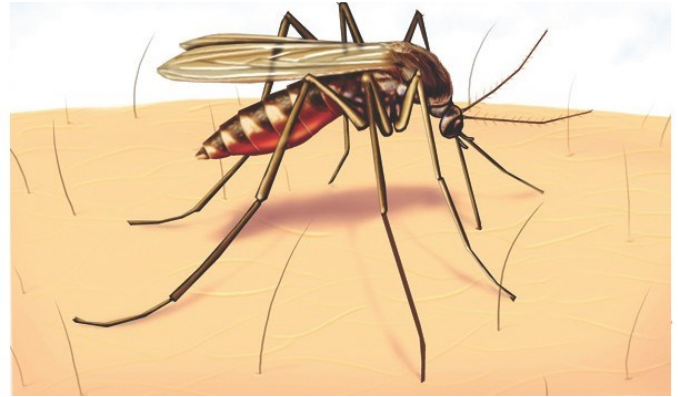
## Control Mosquito-Borne Diseases

### *Why are we concerned about mosquito-borne diseases?*

Most mosquitoes are harmless but some carry serious diseases like West Nile, dengue, chikungunya, and Zika.

### *What can I do to keep mosquitoes from breeding?*

- **Drain standing water** from flower pots, garbage cans, coolers, house gutters, toys, pool covers, and any container where water collects.
- **Throw away** old tires, bottles, cans, drums, pots and pans, broken appliances, and other items not being used.
- **Empty and clean** birdbaths and pet water bowls at least once or twice a week.
- **Protect** boats and vehicles so they don't accumulate water by using a tarp to cover them.
- **Maintain** and check the water balance (pool chemistry) in swimming pools and empty plastic ones when not in use.



### *What can I do to prevent mosquito bites?*

- **Wear clothing** like shoes, socks, long pants, and long sleeves when outside where there are mosquitoes.
- **Use mosquito repellents** with DEET (or another EPA approved repellent) and apply to bare skin and clothing. Use mosquito netting to protect babies younger than 2 months.
- **Cover doors and windows** with screens to keep mosquitoes out of your house. Repair ones that are damaged or broken.

*For more information:* [www.cdc.gov/features/stopmosquitoes](http://www.cdc.gov/features/stopmosquitoes)



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