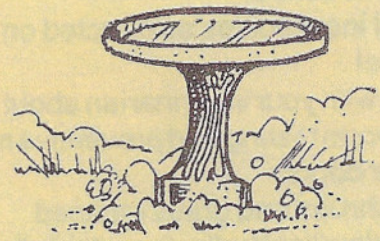
MOSQUITO CONTROL

Advice for the Homeowner

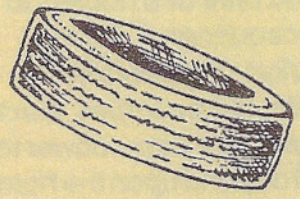
Locate Mosquito Breeding Sites:

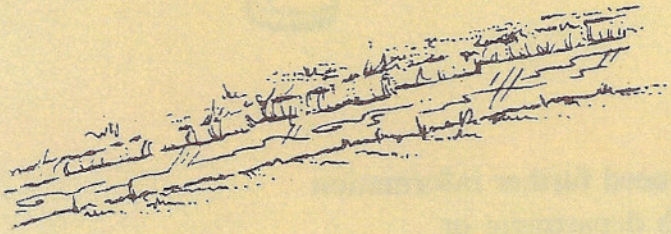
If you are unable to locate breeding sites, call your local mosquito control program and request that one of their personnel help locate these sites.

Typical mosquito breeding sites are:

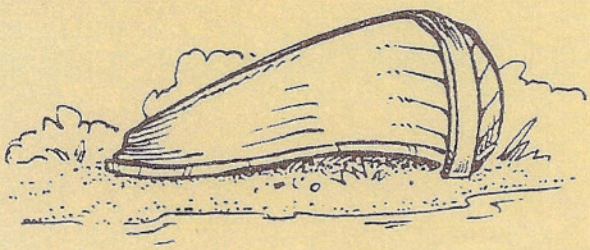


- Low areas that hold water for several days
- River and stream floodplains
- Drainage ditches that hold water
- Overflowing septic tanks
- Tires
- Bird baths
- Unmaintained swimming pools
- Tree holes
- Containers that hold water: cans, bottles, flower pots, boats, buckets, roof gutters, etc.



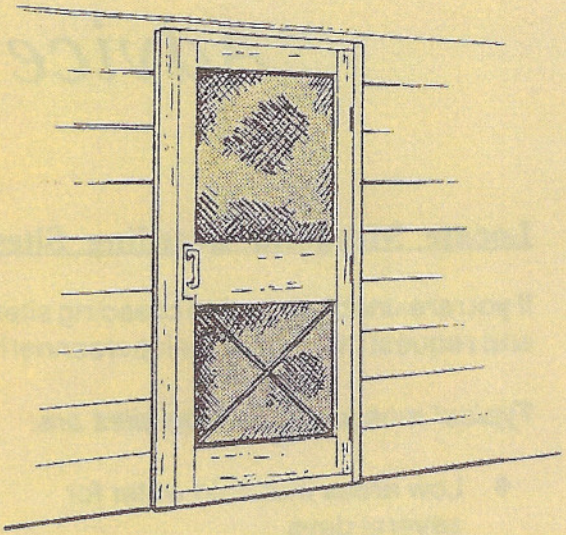


Drain, Fill, Or Eliminate Any Area That Holds Water:

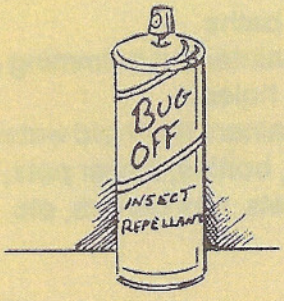


- Clean drainage ditches of debris and weeds
- Tree holes may be packed with sand or cement
- Maintain swimming pools with proper pool chemicals
- Stock ornamental pools/ponds with mosquito-eating fish
- Containers should be emptied and overturned
- Gutters should be cleaned out regularly
- Change water in bird baths and flower cuttings every few days
- Keep boats drained and covered/overturned

Protect Yourself From Adult Mosquitoes:



- Use screens on windows and doors
- Keep your car windows rolled up and garage doors closed at night
- Use insect repellents on skin and clothing
- Use aerosol insecticide dispensers - Insecticide dusts can be used on shrubbery
- Use insect repellents labeled for mosquito control- Use all insecticides as directed on the label
- Check with your veterinarian about heartworm testing and preventive medicine for your dog(s)
- Keep shrubs and grass trimmed
- Use yellow light bulbs for outside lighting purposes
- Wear long sleeved shirts and long trousers
- Put up purple martin and blue bird houses to attract birds that eat mosquitoes
- Many products are marketed to control or repel insects such as citronella candles, electrocution devices, repellent jackets, and lawnmower foggers. Their effectiveness will depend upon the homeower using them according to directions.



If you have any questions or need further information call your local health department or mosquito control program.
We need your help in controlling mosquitoes.

South Carolina
DHEC
Department of Health and Environmental Control

Division of Vector Control
2A-1854A 6/93