Mosquitoes breed in standing water. To reduce the mosquito population around your home and property, eliminate all standing water and debris.

1. Pool cover that collects water, neglected swimming pool or child’s wading pool
2. Birdbath (change water weekly) and garden pond (stock with fish)
3. Any toy, garden equipment, or container that can hold water
4. Flat roof with standing water
5. Clogged rain gutter (home and street)
6. Trash and old tires; Drill drain holes in bottom of tire swings
7. Tree rot hole, hollow stump or rain puddle
8. Repair missing, damaged, or improperly installed screens
9. Uncovered boat or boat cover that collects water
10. Leaky faucet (repair) or pet bowl (change water daily)
LOCAL SITES WHERE MOSQUITOES BREED
All mosquitoes need standing water to begin their life cycle. Locate all sites that hold water.

Drain, Fill, or Get Rid of Areas that Hold Water
- Containers that hold water
- Swimming Pools — maintain with proper chemicals, cover or drain if not in use
- Plastic sheeting or tarps used to cover yard items — pull tight so water won’t pool
- Shallow edges of ponds — clear of plants and weeds
- Clogged ditches and pipes — clean out leaves, dirt, and debris so water flows freely
- Low places, tire ruts or puddles — fill with dirt or sand
- Tree holes and hollow stumps — pack with dirt or sand
- Leaky pipes and outdoor faucets — repair
- Small areas of water that can’t be drained — treat with larvicides, follow label instructions

Protect Yourself from Biting Mosquitoes
- Screens on windows, doors and porches — install or keep in good repair
- Car windows and garage doors — keep closed at night
- Overgrown shrubs, grass, weeds, vines and ground cover — trim or remove overgrown plants that provide cool/dark/damp areas where adult mosquitoes rest
- Scented products — avoid using products that smell like fruit or flowers
- Protective clothing — wear long sleeves, long pants and socks
- Treat clothing and gear — use permethrin products on clothing, boots, tents or purchase pre-treated items
- Light-colored clothing — wear light colors — mosquitoes are attracted to dark colors
- Insect repellent — use EPA-registered insect repellent containing DEET, IR3535, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, or Picaridin

Contact your local Public Health Department Environmental Health Section with questions. Protect and Prevent.

Sites with Standing Water That May Breed Mosquitoes

MAN-MADE CONTAINERS
- Cans
- Bottles
- Buckets
- Flower pot saucers
- Plant cuttings rooting in water
- Pet bowls or animal troughs
- Tires
- Birdbaths
- Wheel barrows
- Children’s toys and wading pools
- Rain barrels
- Clogged roof gutters & downspouts
- Boats
- Junk cars
- Plastic sheeting or tarps used to cover yard items

NATURAL CONTAINERS
- Rock pools
- Tree holes
- Stump holes
- Bamboo stumps
- Magnolia leaves
- Bromeliad and Pitcher plants

NATURAL AREAS
- Ground pools
- Clogged ditches or streams
- Irrigated pastures or farmland
- River and stream floodplains
- Freshwater marsh and swamps
- Salt marsh margins
- Lake/Pond margins with plant growth

Find out what it takes to stop Zika
Please visit dph.georgia.gov/zika

Georgia Department of Public Health