

Mosquito Breeding Sites



Clean up leaf litter, but do not rake leaves and other yard waste into the gutter or storm drains because this prevents water from flowing and can create ponds that give mosquitoes a place to lay eggs and develop.



Clogged gutters will accumulate water and create a place for mosquitoes to breed.



Items such as toys, tires and gardening tools, when filled with water, can breed mosquitoes.



Uncovered refuse containers and junk piles collect water in which mosquitoes can breed.



Poorly maintained ponds and swimming pools can be breeding sites for mosquitoes.

Leaky outside faucets provide water in which mosquitoes can breed.



Crawl spaces, attic vents and broken screens allow mosquitoes to enter your home.

Now that the warm weather is here, so is the mosquito breeding season and the concerns about West Nile Virus. Residents are advised to take precautions to reduce the risk of mosquito bites;

- Follow the "Four Ds" to prevent mosquito bites and to avoid contracting West Nile Virus:
 1. Apply insect repellent that contains **DEET** (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide). Read the label instructions, spray clothes and exposed skin.
 2. **DRESS** in long sleeves and long pants when you are outside.
 3. Stay indoors at **DUSK** and **DAWN**, times when infected mosquitoes are most active.
 4. **DRAIN** standing water in your backyard and neighborhood; old tires, flowerpots and clogged rain gutters are mosquito breeding sites.

Remember, the types of mosquitoes that breed around your home are the same ones primarily responsible for transmitting West Nile Virus to humans. Currently there is no vaccine for West Nile Virus for humans, but there is one for horses, ask your veterinarian.

For more information contact the Abilene-Taylor County Health District at 325-692-5600 or the Texas Department of Health website at www.tdh.state.tx.us