

Defend Your Garden

EVERY WEEK

- Tip and toss free-standing containers such as flowerpot saucers, watering cans and buckets.
- Change the water and clean bird baths with a garden hose.
- Empty water that collects in folds of tarps used to cover woodpiles, boats, etc.
- Position corrugated drain pipes to ensure drainage or dump out water.

ONCE A MONTH

- Apply a larvicide (an insecticide applied to water to kill mosquito larvae), such as Mosquito Dunks®, to standing water that cannot be tipped, tossed or drained.

AS NECESSARY

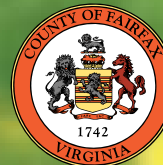
- Clean leaves and debris from roof gutters.
- Recycle old tires. Call 703-324-5230 for disposal information.
- Clear debris to allow water to flow freely from drainage ditches and culverts.
- Filter or aerate ornamental ponds using a circulation pump, or stock the pond with fish.
- Drain or fill-in puddles and areas of your yard that remain wet and soggy for more than a week.
- Check window and door screens and repair as needed to ensure that mosquitoes cannot enter.
- Apply a barrier spray to vegetation around your home. Use an insecticide containing the active ingredient permethrin to provide temporary relief from biting adult mosquitoes. Treatment will last two to three weeks, depending on the rain. Always follow label instructions.

ORGANIZE A NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP

- This is the most effective way to control mosquitoes in your area.

Fairfax County Health Department
Division of Environmental Health
Disease Carrying Insects Program

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This information is available in
alternative formats.



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Understanding Mosquitoes and West Nile Virus



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