

*To prevent  
the spread of disease  
Stop mosquitoes before  
they start....*



While inflicting their nasty bites, mosquitoes may be spreading serious diseases. West Nile Virus, St. Louis Encephalitis, LaCrosse Encephalitis, and Eastern Equine Encephalitis are transmitted by these annoying insects. By understanding how mosquitoes operate and knowing where they live and breed, you can control mosquito populations and reduce your risk of being exposed to these mosquito-borne diseases.



For more information on  
mosquito control  
contact your  
local health department.



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# Mosquito control is the first step in disease prevention.

## *Kentucky: 52 Mosquito Varieties*

Kentucky is home to 52 species of mosquitoes. Little wonder people have to do battle with the pesky insects every year and in their own backyard! The battleground is frequently the yards of homes where standing water affords the ideal place for them to breed and grow. They zoom in on moist surfaces and still water where they lay hundreds of eggs which hatch and mature to adulthood in about a week. Stagnate water in old tires, ponds, birdbaths, unmaintained fountains, toys, clay pots, buckets, and other containers suits their needs.

Before mosquitoes lay their eggs, they help themselves to a blood meal from warm-blooded hosts—birds, horses, dogs, and yes, people. They find their unwitting hosts by detecting carbon dioxide, heat, and moisture. So breathing, warm skin temperature, and sweat are magnets for mosquitoes in search of a meal.



## *Stop mosquitoes*

### *In your own backyard*

- ▲ Drain and remove any container that could hold water—old tires, garden pots and saucers, and toys.
- ▲ Recycle any unused containers that could collect water.
- ▲ Change water every week in birdbaths, wading pools, watering troughs, and pet bowls. Fill in puddles.
- ▲ Check and clean clogged gutters to ensure proper drainage.
- ▲ Repair or replace window-door screens to keep the bugs out.
- ▲ Fix any leaking exterior faucets and sprinklers.
- ▲ Keep ponds free of vegetation and stock with fish.
- ▲ Dress for the occasion—wear light-colored long sleeves, long pants, and a hat when you plan to be out at dawn or dusk.
- ▲ Use mosquito repellent, carefully following label directions.



## *Prevention and Protection*

Make sure your yard doesn't become a mosquito breeding ground—eliminate all standing water.

Protect yourself when outdoors. Use repellents with DEET and wear long sleeves and pants.

Always read the label and follow directions when using any repellent. Note special directions for use on children.

## *“Skeeter-Proof” Your Yard*

### *Eliminate Possible*

### *Breeding Sites*

