

MOSQUITO PREVENTION CHECKLIST

The checklist below includes property maintenance and personal safety tips against West Nile Virus.

✓ Prevent breeding sources at home

- Birdbaths:** Clean weekly
- Chain link fence:** Cap uncapped fence pipes
- Containers:** Cover or turn upside down
- Decorative ponds:** Stock with mosquito fish that eat larvae
- Drains:** Keep outdoor drains flowing freely
- Faucets and hoses:** Fix any leaks
- Flat roofs:** Inspect for puddles after it rains
- Irrigation:** Do not over water, and repair areas with standing water
- Lawn ornaments:** Check for areas that hold water
- Machinery:** Cover and clean any areas that may hold water
- Playground:** Drill drainage holes in tire swings and playground equipment that holds water
- Pools/spas:** Drain, cover, or stock mosquito fish in unused pools and spas
- Potted plants:** Do not over water and empty saucers weekly
- Rain barrels:** Remove debris and screen openings
- Rain gutters:** Clean out debris so water flows freely
- Tires:** Dispose or drill holes for water drainage
- Tool sheds:** Eliminate water around foundation
- Toys:** Check weekly and empty as needed
- Trash cans:** Clean weekly and keep covered
- Unused pipes:** Store flat so no water collects
- Water troughs for animals:** Replace water weekly, stock with mosquito fish for larger animal troughs
- Wheelbarrows:** Store upright so water does not collect

✓ Protect yourself from mosquitoes

- Clothing:** Wear long sleeved shirts and long pants when around active mosquito areas
- Dawn/Dusk:** Avoid going outdoors if possible because mosquitoes are most active during this time of day
- Repellent:** Apply insect repellent such as DEET, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, Picaridin and IR3535 to exposed skin when mosquitoes are active
- Screens:** Install or repair tight-fitting window and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside
- Shrubs:** Trim and thin shrubs and bushy plants where mosquitoes tend to hide
- Mosquito Fish:** Place fish in ponds, unused swimming pools, horse troughs, or other artificial containers. Call or visit Vector Control's website for distribution locations.
- BTI:** A natural bacteria that kills mosquito and fly larvae, but will not hurt animals. It can be put into standing water to prevent development of larvae. Available in hardware and garden stores.

✓ Report green pools, dead birds (crows, jays, hawks, owls) and mosquito breeding

- Phone:** (858) 694-2888
- Web:** www.SDFightTheBite.com
- Mobile App:** Download the Fight The Bite app at: www.sdcounty.ca.gov/appcenter
- In Person:** 5570 Overland Avenue, Suite 102, San Diego, CA 92123

