

# PROTECT

Mosquitoes are attracted to an individual based on a complex interaction of the many chemicals you exhale, perspire or wear. Only female mosquitos have a piercing and bloodsucking organ. Hosts include humans and animals, and vary with the species of mosquito.

## How to avoid mosquito bites:

- Be aware of peak biting periods. (early morning and evening hours)
- Avoid infested areas such as tall grasses/weeds and shady areas.
- Wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.
  - Long-sleeved shirts, long pants, jackets.
  - Tuck pants legs into boots/socks.
- Use appropriate chemical repellants for your skin.
  - Available in aerosol/pump sprays, sticks, soaps, lotions, creams, and towelettes.
  - Most effective repellents contain Deet, which should be listed in the ingredients.
- Equip/repair all doors and windows using 16-mesh screen.

For comments, questions, or requests, please call the City of Cincinnati's Service Line

**(513) 591-6000**

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Commissioner of Health  
Cincinnati Health Department



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what you need to know about  
**MOSQUITOS**



a guideline for  
CINCINNATI RESIDENTS



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# DRAIN

## Drain standing water

By draining standing or stagnant water on your property you eliminate mosquito breeding sites and help reduce the mosquito population around your home. The chart below identifies items typically found around the home that can collect water and provides solutions for keeping them free of stagnant water.



# DUNK

## Larvicides

Larvicides are chemicals or natural bacteria that can be used to kill mosquito larvae in standing water that cannot be drained. They are the most effective form of mosquito control because they kill mosquitoes before they become adults and disperse by flying.

## Applying Larvicide

Larvicides can be applied to standing water as a liquid, granules, or briquets. The briquets, also known as dunks, are the most common form used.

### Mosquito dunks:

- Are not harmful to humans and animals and can be applied by hand, by dropping them in standing water
- Slowly release a long-term larvicide at the water's surface
- Can kill mosquito larvae for 30 days or longer
- Are especially effective for areas where it is difficult to drain standing water, such as puddles, ditches, ponds or tree stumps
- Should not be applied to drinking water reservoirs or drinking water receptacles
- Can be purchased at most gardening, hardware, or home improvement stores

POTENTIAL BREEDING SITES	EXAMPLES	SOLUTION
SWIMMING POOLS	abandoned	properly cover, fill or tear down
	active	maintain sanitizers and filters
	wading/children	empty after each use
CONTAINERS	old tires, pet bowls, buckets, flower pot saucers, bottles, cans, tire swings, garbage cans/lids, rain barrels/basins	keep empty, remove or cover
ANY AREA WHERE WATER CAN COLLECT IN A STAGNANT SITUATION	ditches	clear debris and keep drained
	low areas/ruts	fill with dirt and reseed
	bird baths	empty frequently
	fountains	maintain water circulation
	ornamental water garden	stock with mosquito eating fish
	ponds, creeks, lakes	minimize plant growth and maintain water circulation
	boats	store covered or upside down
	leaking water spigots	repair leaks, maintain spigots
	clogged gutters	clean and maintain regularly
	tree rot, holes, hollow stumps	fill hole or remove tree/stump
	pooled sewage	contact your local public health agency