

MOSQUITO-PROOF YOUR YARD

Habitat Checklist:

☐ Buckets, Wheelbarrows, and Watering Cans

- Empty and turn them over.
- Store in a shed or garage.

☐ Pools

- Keep pool covers tight.
- Empty or change the water in kiddie pools every 5-7 days. Turn over when not in use.
- Contact mosquito control, if you see an abandoned home in your neighborhood with a pool.*

☐ Plastic and Deflated Toys, Wagons, Sandboxes and Playsets

- Keep toys turned over or inside when not in use. If water gets inside the toy, tire swing, or sandbox, drill drainage holes in the bottom.
- Make sure caps for basketball hoop fill holes are in place.
- Dry off playsets to prevent standing water.
- Drain off water from deflated toys, dry out, and store indoors when not in use.

☐ Decorative Ponds and Hose Spigots

- Fix a leaky spigot or call a professional plumber.
- Add a fountain, waterfall or other device to prevent standing water in decorative ponds, or contact mosquito control on how to treat for mosquito larvae.*

☐ Boats and Jet Skis

- Rinse and empty all water. Use tight-fitting tarps or boatshrink wrap. Keep tarps tight and refit them if water collects.

☐ Garbage Cans and Recycle Bins

- Drill drainage holes in the bottoms of garbage cans and recycling bins and keep them covered to prevent water from getting in.

☐ Bird Baths and Pet Dishes

- Dump water from pet dishes every three to five days.
- Change bird bath water at least once a week.

☐ Planters

- Drill holes in the bottom where necessary, but tightly seal holes in self-watering planters

☐ Gutters, Downspouts and Rain Barrels

- Keep gutters and downspouts clean, free of debris, and properly pitched so water drains completely.
- Cover tops of rain barrels with tightly fitted screens and secure with tight elastic.
- Plug overflow holes or contact mosquito control for guidance.*

☐ Decks, Porches, Sheds and Under Shrubs

- Make sure to check under decks and porches for containers that may hold water.
- Look behind sheds, under bushes and in overlooked spots in the yard and remove debris that can hold water.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Bergen County
Office of Mosquito & Vector Control
***201-634-2880**



Reminder: Remove standing water from around your home regularly.