

REDUCE THE SOURCE!

PREVENT MOSQUITOES FROM BREEDING IN YOUR BACKYARD

Understanding what happens to rain water as it collects in man-made containers is crucial to controlling mosquitoes. In general, if water is allowed to sit in stagnant pools for longer than 5 days, mosquitoes can develop.

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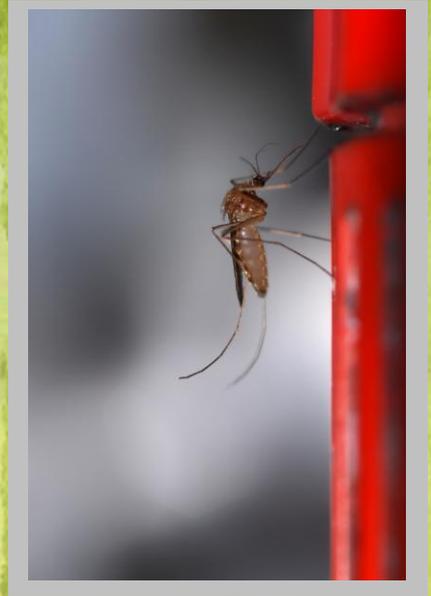
Source reduction is the permanent removal of mosquito breeding sites by eliminating standing water. This method provides a permanent solution to mosquito problems without the application of insecticides which only provides a temporary solution.

CULEX PIPIENS

Culex pipiens, “The Northern House Mosquito”, is considered to be the primary disease vector of West Nile Virus. They tend to have numerous generations each summer with several hundred eggs laid at one time.

Culex pipiens develops in small containers around the home (buckets, bird baths), in roadside ditches, or in polluted waters like sewage lagoons.

You can do your part in reducing numbers of *Culex pipiens* by following a simple source reduction plan and encouraging your neighbors to do the same!



Culex pipiens

Culex pipiens are the primary vector of West Nile Virus. They breed in many of the uncovered containers found in backyards.





Prevent tarps from collecting water



Change water in bird baths and wading pools on a weekly basis



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ARTIFICIAL CONTAINERS

Artificial containers are man-made containers capable of holding water. To prevent mosquitoes from breeding, all containers including **buckets, rain barrels, bird baths, flower pots, toys, wheelbarrows,** and large **swimming pools** should be properly maintained and monitored. Water in **bird baths, pet dishes,** and **wading pools** should be changed on a weekly basis. **Swimming pools** should be properly chlorinated and covered when not in use. Rainwater should be prevented from collecting on **pool covers** or **tarps**. **Rain barrels** should be tightly covered with screen to prevent adult mosquitoes from laying eggs on the surface. **Gutters** and **downspouts** should be cleaned on a regular basis and scrap **tires** should be recycled. Containers with the potential to collect water should be stored inside, or if left outside, should either be tightly covered or turned upside down to prevent water from collecting.

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Contact BCMC for more information on treatment of sites that may breed mosquitoes in Bay County