



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY WANTS TO PROTECT YOU FROM MOSQUITOES

Mosquito bites can spread diseases such as Zika and West Nile Virus. Mosquito-borne diseases also kill birds, reptiles, animals and endangered species.

We recommend following the **three D's** to keep mosquitoes away:

Drain: Standing water attracts mosquitoes. Empty out any outside water containers near your home at least once per week

Dress: Dark clothing attracts mosquitoes. Wear long sleeves, long pants, and light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.

Defend: Properly apply an EPA-registered repellent such as DEET, picaridin, IR 3535, or oil of lemon-eucalyptus.

ADDITIONAL PROTECTION TIPS:

For everyone:

- ❖ Do not spray insect repellent on skin under your clothes.
- ❖ Always follow the repellent product label instructions.
- ❖ If you are also using sunscreen, apply sunscreen first and insect repellent second.
- ❖ Treat items, such as boots, pants, socks, and tents, with permethrin* or buy permethrin-treated clothing and gear.
- ❖ Permethrin-treated clothing will protect you after multiple washings. See product information to find out how long the protection will last.
- ❖ If treating items yourself, follow the product instructions.
- ❖ Do not use permethrin products directly on skin.

For babies and children:

- ❖ Cover a baby's crib, stroller and baby carrier with mosquito netting.
- ❖ Do not use insect repellent on babies younger than 2 months old.
- ❖ Do not apply insect repellent onto a child's hands, eyes, mouth or onto a cut or irritated skin.
- ❖ Adults: Spray insect repellent onto your hands and then apply to a child's face.
- ❖ For children younger than 3: Do not use products containing oil of lemon-eucalyptus or para-menthane-diol.

Steps to control mosquitoes inside and outside your home:

- ❖ Use screens on windows and doors and repair any holes.
- ❖ Use air conditioning when available.
- ❖ Sleep under a mosquito net if air conditioned or screened rooms are not available.
- ❖ Once a week, empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out items that hold water, such as tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flowerpots, or trash containers. Check inside and outside your home. Mosquitoes lay eggs near water.
- ❖ Tightly cover water storage containers (buckets, cisterns, rain barrels) so that mosquitoes cannot get inside to lay eggs.
- ❖ For containers without lids, use wire mesh with holes smaller than an adult mosquito.
- ❖ Use larvicides to treat large containers of water that will not be used for drinking and cannot be covered or dumped out.
- ❖ If you have a septic tank, repair cracks or gaps. Cover open vent or plumbing pipes. Use wire mesh with holes smaller than an adult mosquito.
- ❖ Use an outdoor insect spray made to kill mosquitoes in areas where they rest.
- ❖ Mosquitoes rest in dark, humid areas like under patio furniture, or under the carport or garage. When using insecticides, always follow label instructions.
- ❖ Do not leave doors propped open.
- ❖ Use an indoor insect fogger or indoor insect spray to kill mosquitoes and treat areas where they rest. These products work immediately, and may need to be reapplied. When using insecticides, always follow label directions. Only using insecticide will not keep your home free of mosquitoes.
- ❖ Mosquitoes rest in dark, humid places like under the sink, in closets, under furniture, or in the laundry room.

Source: CDC.gov