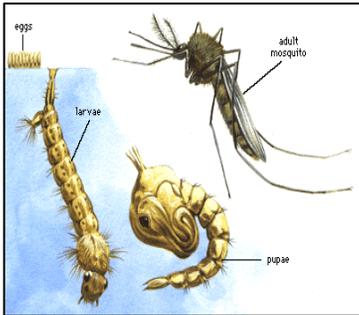


Mosquito Control Around the Home



The most effective way to control mosquitoes around the home is to find and eliminate breeding sites. All mosquitoes pass through four life stages: egg, larva, pupa and adult. The **first three stages must have water** for development.

Many mosquito problems in your neighborhood are likely to come from water-filled containers that you, the resident, can help to eliminate. Be sure to drain any standing water around your house.



Dispose of any tires. Tires can breed thousands of mosquitoes.

Clean pet water dishes regularly.



Change the water in bird baths at least once a week.

Clear roof gutters of debris.



Empty children's wading pools immediately after use.

Ensure that buckets and other receptacles have tight fitting lids to prevent accumulation of rainwater.



Remove standing water that may accumulate on the property

Remove corrugated piping or cover end with screening material



The Asian tiger mosquito is the most common daytime biting mosquito in Prince William County. This mosquito spreads dog heart-worm, encephalitis, and may be a vector of West Nile virus. Unlike many native mosquitoes, the Asian tiger mosquito does not breed in swamps or other wet natural habitats. This mosquito breeds in artificial containers such as rain gutters, bird baths, flower pots, tires, barrels, boats, tarps, cans, and garden pools. They feed mainly during daylight hours, making them a major urban pest for people working or playing outside. Only the female mosquitoes feed on blood, which they use in producing eggs. Females can survive for a month or more.

- You can best control this pest by eliminating breeding sites. Water filled cans, tires, pots, and blocked rain gutters should be drained. If empty containers must be stored they should either be drilled to allow drainage, turned over or placed in a location that does not allow them to fill with water
- You can reduce the chance of being bitten by Asian tiger mosquitoes by wearing insect repellents and long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors.