



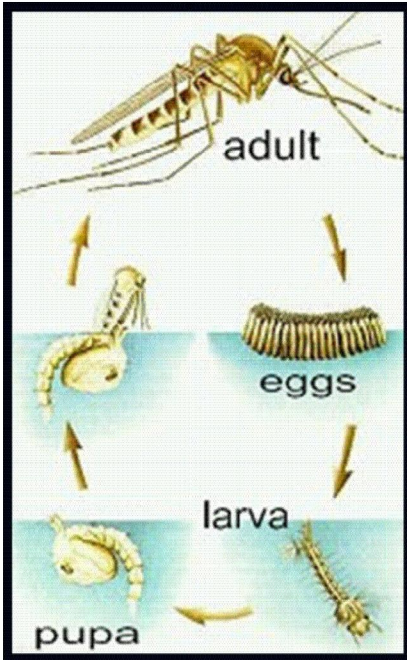
# Vector Habitat Remediation Program

County of San Diego Vector Control Program

PUBLISHED AND TRANSLATED TO SPANISH BY SALUD+HEALTH INFO MAGAZINE



# Vector Habitat Remediation Program



**Mosquito Lifecycle:**  
Standing water is necessary  
for mosquitoes to reproduce

San Diego County's Vector Habitat Remediation Program (VHRP) seeks long term solutions for chronic mosquito breeding sources. It offers grant funding to physically alter mosquito breeding sites in ways that will reduce mosquito breeding habitats and improve the effectiveness of mosquito control measures while balancing the water quality, biologic, aesthetic and hydrologic values of wetlands.



**Overgrown standing water sources provide  
ideal conditions for mosquitoes to breed**

County of San Diego  
Vector Control Program  
5570 Overland Avenue  
Suite 102  
San Diego, CA 92123  
Phone: (858) 694-2888  
Fax: (858) 571-4268

The County VHRP accepts project proposals from government and private entities. Projects are divided into two types:

**Directed:**

- Smaller projects focus on immediate actions such removal of vegetation or re-establishing water flow in storm water detention basins, ditches and storm drains.
- Amount available: up to \$50,000 per project.

**Competitive:**

- Focus on comprehensive solutions for source reduction through physical modification.
- Three Categories: Turnkey, Study and Assistance Projects.
- Amount available: up to \$500,000 per project per cycle.

Contact San Diego Vector Control Program for more information at:

[Vector@SDCounty.ca.gov](mailto:Vector@SDCounty.ca.gov)

*County of San Diego*  
  
*Vector Control Program*

# It's Mosquito Season Again!



Warmer temperatures and the end of the Spring showers might left more than the blooming of flowers and aromatic herbs in our gardens and balconies. It might also cause standing water where mosquitoes can breed, growth and bite!

The last week of April was declared: "West Nile virus and Mosquito & Vector Control Awareness Week" by the California legislators as the kicks off mosquito and West Nile virus season, as well as the start of a public information and education campaign to keep residents safe and aware about the health risks associated with mosquitoes.

San Diego County Vector Control Program (VCP), reminding us all to be smart and protect ourselves from the potentially-fatal disease. With larvicide drops, education and prevention, has done a good job of warding off West Nile virus, with zero human illnesses in 2010 and 2011 and just one batch of mosquitoes testing positive in 2011. But with 158 illnesses and nine deaths statewide in 2011, West Nile virus remains a threat. So far, our efforts have paid off here in San Diego County," said Supervisor Greg Cox. "But we need to stay vigilant. Diseases like West Nile virus can strike anywhere, anytime. Fortunately, all of us can take an active role in protecting ourselves and the community."

Cox said the County would continue to do its part: using helicopters and other equipment to drop mosquito-larvicide into ponds and water sources; looking for "green" pools that could become mosquito breeding grounds; giving out free mosquito-eating fish; and visiting schools and health fairs with West Nile virus posters and educational materials.

For information about West Nile virus and how to protect yourself, call 858-694-2888 or visit:

**[SDFightTheBite.com](http://SDFightTheBite.com)**

The San Diego County Vector Control Program (VCP) is a branch within the County of San Diego - Department of Environmental Health. A "vector" is an animal or insect that can carry and pass on a human disease. Some examples of vectors in San Diego County are mosquitoes, ticks and rodents.

The VCP works in the county of San Diego to monitor and control vectors and the diseases that they carry. The VCP has been reducing and controlling mosquitoes and other vectors since the 1930's.

County Environmental Health officials said the public can also help, by remembering and acting upon this phrase:

## **"Prevent, Protect, and Report"**

### **Prevent Mosquito Breeding:**

Backyard water sources are ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Residents should dump or remove anything that can hold water, such as plant saucers, rain gutters, buckets, trash cans, children's toys, old spare tires and wheelbarrows. Mosquito fish may be used to control mosquito breeding in backyard water sources such as unused swimming pools, ponds, fountains and horse troughs. You can get free mosquito fish from the Vector Control Program, 858-694-2888.

### **Protect Yourself from Mosquito Bites:**

Protect yourself from the virus by staying inside when mosquitoes are most active, between dusk and dawn, and by wearing long sleeves and pants when outdoors. Use insect repellents containing DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus or IR 3535 when you are outdoors. Make sure window and door screens are in good condition and are secured.

### **Report dead birds and green swimming pools:**

Please report green swimming pools to the Vector Control Program for treatment. The County provides free mosquito fish to control mosquitoes in backyard water sources including green swimming pools. Also report dead crows, ravens, jays, hawks, and owls to be tested for the virus. Contact the County at 858-694-2888.

**Get the Facts and  
Join the Fight!**

# FIGHT



# the Bite!

**Protect Yourself, Your Family and Your  
Neighborhood From Mosquitoes**



To receive community health alerts on your smartphone,  
download a QR reader application to your phone  
then scan this QR code or text PEST to 75309



**Prevent!**



**Protect!**



**Report!**

**(858) 694-2888 | [SDFightTheBite.com](http://SDFightTheBite.com)**



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
Vector Control Program

# MOSQUITO PREVENTION CHECKLIST

Just an inch of standing water is all it takes for mosquitoes to breed – and West Nile virus to spread even more! Backyard water sources are ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes. Residents should dump or remove anything that can hold water. If standing water is removed weekly, mosquitoes will not have a chance to breed.

Timely prevention offers the necessary protection for your family and your entire neighborhood, leads to less mosquitoes around the home, and reduces or eliminates the need for pesticides. The checklists below include property maintenance and personal safety tips against West Nile Virus.

## CHECK YOUR HOME FOR BREEDING SOURCES:

- Birdbaths: Clean weekly
- Chain link fence: Cap uncapped fence pipes
- Containers: Cover or turn upside down
- Decorative ponds: Stock with mosquito eating fish that eat larvae
- Drains: Keep outdoor drains flowing freely
- Dumpsters: Keep covered and remove any water inside or underneath them
- Faucets and hoses: Fix any leaks
- Flat roofs: Inspect for puddles after it rains
- Irrigation: Do not over water, and repair areas with standing water
- Lawn ornaments: Check for areas that hold water
- Machinery: Cover and clean any areas that may hold water
- Playground: Drill drainage holes in tire swings and play ground equipment that holds water
- Pools/spas: Drain, cover, or stock mosquito fish in unused pools and spas
- Potted Plants: Do not over water and empty saucers weekly
- Rain gutters: Clean out debris so water flows freely
- Tires: Dispose or drill holes for water drainage
- Tool sheds: Eliminate water around foundation
- Trashcans: Clean weekly and keep covered
- Unused pipes: Store flat so no water collects
- Water troughs for animals:  
Replace water weekly, stock with mosquito fish for larger animal troughs
- Wheelbarrows: Store upright so water does not collect

## PROTECT YOURSELF FROM MOSQUITOES!

- Clothing: Wear long sleeved shirts and long pants when around active mosquito areas
- Dawn/Dusk: Avoid going outdoors if possible because mosquitoes are most active during this time of day
- Repellent: Apply insect repellent containing DEET, Picaridin or IR3535 to exposed skin when mosquitoes are active
- Screens: Install or repair tight-fitting window and door screens to keep mosquitoes outside
- Shrubs: Trim and thin shrubs and bushy plants where mosquitoes tend to hide
- Dead birds: Report dead birds within 24 hours to (858) 694- 2888
- BTI: A natural bacteria that kills mosquito and fly larvae, but will not hurt animals. It can be put into standing water to prevent development of larvae. Available in hardware and garden stores.

We are doing our part! Help us by doing Yours, by protecting yourself and your home!

**Together we  
could fight the  
bite!  
Let's do our Best  
to Fight the Bite!**



To Contact San Diego Vector Program 5570 Overland Avenue Suite 102 San Diego, 92123

**(858) 694- 2888**

**[www.SDFightTheBite.com](http://www.SDFightTheBite.com)**

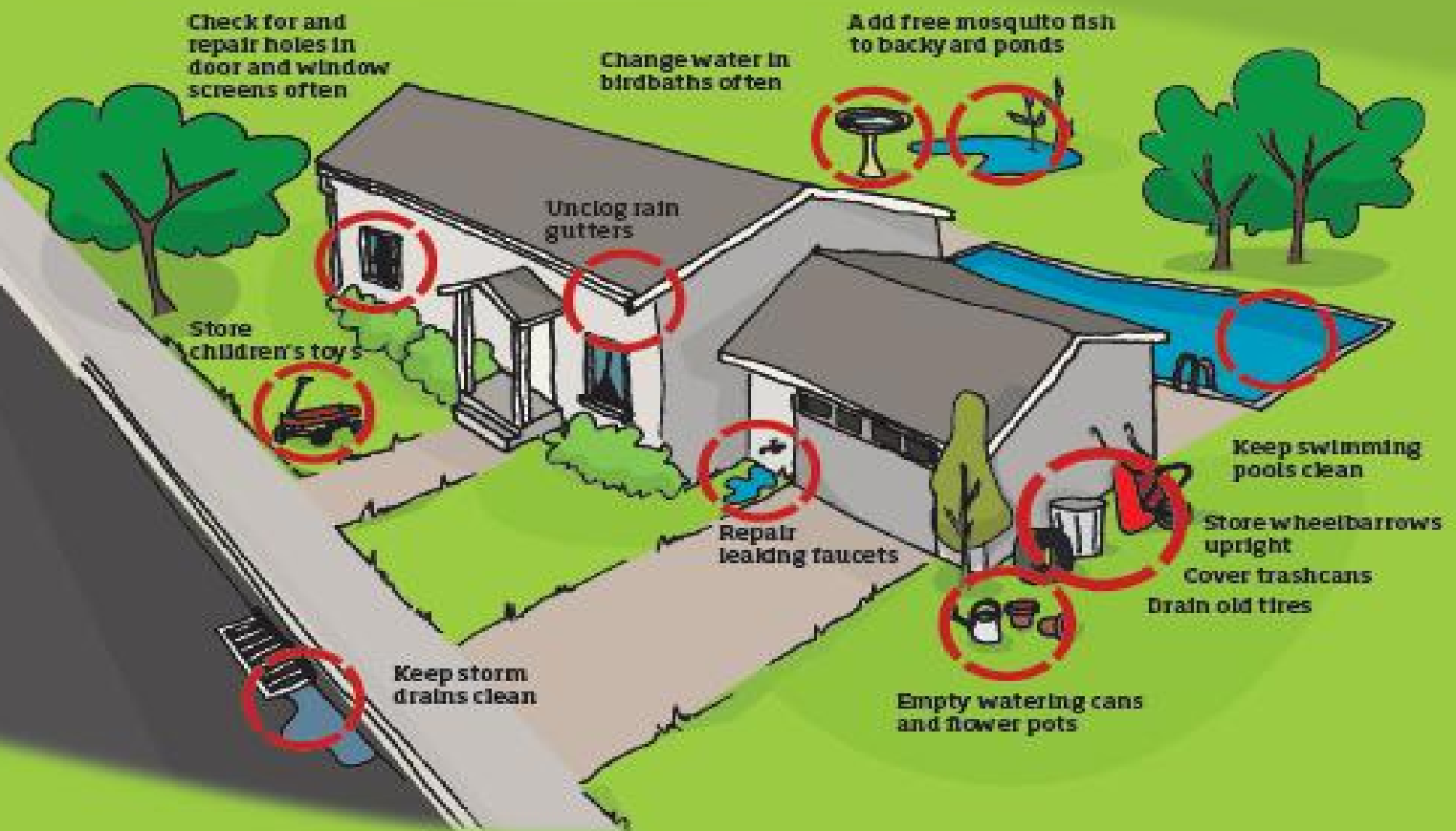
# FIGHT the Bite!



## BEAT WEST NILE VIRUS

Get the facts and join the fight!

**TO HELP STOP THE VIRUS, GET RID OF MOSQUITO BREEDING SITES AROUND YOUR HOME**



### QUICK FACTS

- West Nile virus affects people of all ages
- West Nile virus can be a serious, even fatal, disease
- It has been in San Diego County since 2003
- There is no cure or vaccine for the virus
- The disease is transmitted through the bite of infected mosquitoes

### 5 EASY WAYS TO FIGHT THE BITE

1. Apply mosquito repellent before you go outdoors – especially from dusk to dawn
2. Wear long sleeves and long pants outdoors – especially from dusk to dawn
3. Report dead birds (crows, hawks and jays) to Vector Control
4. Check for standing water outside your home once a week
5. Call Vector Control for free mosquito fish for green pools, ponds and fountains, 858-694-2888

 **Prevent!**

 **Protect!**

 **Report!**

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