

# Common Residential Mosquito Sources

*Use this home and garden checklist to keep your property mosquito free*

- Bromeliads and other plants that naturally collect and hold water
- Rain Barrels and/or homemade water collection and storage containers
- Lilly pots and/or water gardens
- Potted plant saucers
- Swimming pool and/or spa
- Fountains
- Birdbaths
- Ponds
- Trash cans and trash can lids
- Misc. garbage or “junk”
- Recyclables and recycle collection bins
- Tires
- Water bowls for pets
- Water troughs
- Toys
- Watering cans
- Buckets and misc. containers
- Lawn ornaments and/or lawn furniture
- Leaky hoses, sprinklers, and/or faucets
- Wheel barrels
- Covers or tarps on boats, cars or recreational vehicles
- Low areas with persistent puddling
- Rain gutters
- Drains
- Tree holes
- Street gutters and pot holes

# How to inspect your property for mosquito breeding

*Residential yards are often the #1 source of mosquito production in a community.*

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## Mosquitoes Grow in Water

Mosquitoes lay their eggs and grow in standing water. Any item or container that can hold a teaspoon of water or more can grow mosquitoes.

Adult female mosquitoes lay approximately 100-250 eggs either in clusters called rafts which float on the surface of the water, or singularly on or at the water's edge. Larvae hatch from eggs within days after contact with water.

Immature mosquitoes grow in the water for about a week before emerging as flying adults. Eliminating the sources of water where mosquitoes grow can significantly reduce the population.

## Invasive *Aedes* Mosquitoes

Invasive *Aedes* are small black mosquitoes with distinctive white stripes. They are not native to California but arrived in shipments of goods from other parts of the country and the world. These mosquitoes thrive in urban environments and once established become a significant pest. They are aggressive day biters and are responsible for outbreaks of dengue, chikungunya, and Zika all over the world.

Invasive *Aedes* prefer to live close to humans and lay their eggs in small containers most often found in backyards. To protect against mosquito bites and mosquito-borne disease, it is important for residents to regularly inspect their properties and remove containers where mosquitoes can grow.

## Searching for sources

Walk your entire property and use the checklist looking for any containers both natural and man-made that will hold a teaspoon of water or more.

Categorize containers into three categories:

1. Those that can be thrown away
2. Those that can be scrubbed down and stored in a dry place
3. Permanent fixtures that will remain in the yard and require regular inspection

Inspect your property weekly and immediately after it rains to dump and drain containers holding water.

## Call with questions



**San Gabriel Valley  
Mosquito and Vector Control District**

**(626) 814-9466  
[www.SGVmosquito.org](http://www.SGVmosquito.org)**