

# Protect

## Why Mosquitoes Bite

Mosquitoes are attracted to an individual based on a complex interaction of the many chemicals you exhale, perspire or wear. Only females have piercing and bloodsucking organs. Hosts include humans and domestic animals, and vary with the species.

## How to Avoid Mosquito Bites

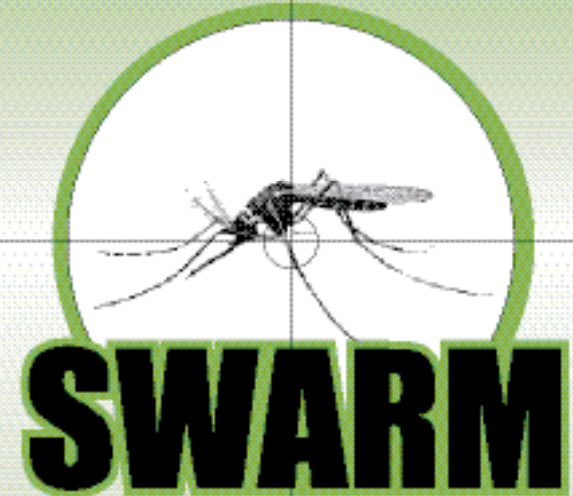
- Be aware of peak biting periods.
- Mosquitoes are especially active in the evening and early morning hours.
- Avoid infested areas.
  - Shaded, humid areas with little or no breeze
  - Tall grasses/weeds
- Wear light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.
  - Long sleeved shirts, long pants, jackets
  - Tuck pant legs into boots/socks
- Use appropriate chemical repellents for your skin.
  - Available in aerosol/pump sprays, sticks, soaps, lotions, creams, and towelettes.
  - Most effective repellents contain DEET (N-diethyl-metatoluamide), which should be listed in the ingredients.
- Equip/repair all doors and windows using 16-mesh screen.

# Control is the key

For more information go online at [www.hamilton-co.org/boh](http://www.hamilton-co.org/boh) or contact your local SWARM agency:

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Hamilton County<br>General Health District       | 513.946.7832 |
| Butler County<br>General Health District         | 513.863.1770 |
| Cincinnati Veterinary<br>Medical Association     | 513.831.2862 |
| Cincinnati Health Department                     | 513.352.2922 |
| City of Harrison                                 | 513.367.3725 |
| Clermont County<br>General Health District       | 513.732.7499 |
| Dearborn County Health Department                | 812.537.8826 |
| Hamilton County Park District                    | 513.728.3551 |
| Hamilton County Public Works                     | 513.946.4753 |
| Hamilton County Soil & Water                     | 513.772.7645 |
| Hamilton/Warren County<br>Farm Bureau            | 513.673.9237 |
| Indian Hill Health Department                    | 513.561.6500 |
| Metropolitan Sewer District                      | 513.352.4223 |
| Middletown Health District                       | 513.425.1818 |
| Northern Kentucky<br>Independent Health District | 859.341.4264 |
| Norwood Health Department                        | 513.458.4600 |
| Ohio Department of Wildlife                      | 937.372.9261 |
| St. Bernard Health Department                    | 513.242.7709 |
| Second Chance Wildlife                           | 513.875.3433 |
| Sharonville Health Department                    | 513.563.1722 |
| Springdale City Health Department                | 513.346.5725 |
| Warren County<br>General Health District         | 513.695.1220 |

## A Homeowner's Guide to Mosquito Control



South West Area Regional Mosquito Task Force

SWARM is putting "The Buzz" on the street...

...about keeping mosquitoes out of your yard...

...and OUT OF YOUR LIFE!

### HAMILTON COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT



250 William Howard Taft Rd., 2nd FL  
Cincinnati, OH 45219  
Phone 513.946.7801 Fax 513.946.7890  
[www.hamilton-co.org/boh](http://www.hamilton-co.org/boh)

# Drain

## Drain Standing Water

By draining standing or stagnant water on your property you eliminate mosquito breeding sites and help reduce the mosquito population around your home. The chart below identifies items typically found around the home that can collect water and provides solutions for keeping them free of stagnant water.



| Potential Breeding Sites                                 | Examples  | Solution  |
|--|---|---|
| Swimming Pools   | abandoned   | Properly fill or tear down.                           |
|  | active  | Maintain sanitizers and filters.                      |
|  | wading/children   | Empty after each use.                                 |
| Containers   | old tires, pet bowls, buckets, flower pot saucers, bottles, cans, tire swings, garbage cans/lids, rain barrels/basins | Keep empty, remove, or cover.                         |
| Any area where water can collect in a stagnant situation | ditches   | Clear debris and keep drained.                        |
|  | low areas/ruts  | Fill with dirt and reseed.                            |
|  | bird baths  | Empty frequently.                                     |
|  | fountains   | Maintain water circulation.                           |
|  | ornamental water garden   | Stock with mosquito-eating fish.                      |
|  | ponds, creeks, lakes  | Minimize plant growth and maintain water circulation. |
|  | boats   | Store covered or upside down.                         |
|  | leaking water spigots   | Repair leaks, maintain spigots.                       |
|  | clogged gutters   | Clean and maintain regularly.                         |
|  | tree rot holes, hollow stumps   | Fill hole or remove tree/stump.                       |
|  | pooled sewage   | Contact your local public health agency.              |

# Dunk

## Larvicides

Larvicides are chemicals or natural bacteria that can be used to kill mosquito larvae in standing water that cannot be drained. They are the most effective form of mosquito control because they kill mosquitoes before they become adults and disperse by flying. Larvicides are more commonly referred to as Mosquito "dunks."

## Applying Larvicide

Larvicides can be applied to standing water as a liquid, granules, or briquets. The briquets, or dunks, are the most common form used. Mosquito dunks:

- Are environmentally safe and can be applied by hand, by dropping them in standing water
- Slowly release a long-term larvicide at the water's surface
- Can kill mosquito larvae for 30 days or longer
- Are especially effective for areas where it is difficult to drain standing water, such as puddles, ditches, ponds, or tree stumps
- Should not be applied to drinking water reservoirs or drinking water receptacles
- Can be purchased at most gardening, hardware, or home improvement stores.