



HELP WANTED



Container-breeding mosquitoes are a nuisance and a potential carrier of West Nile virus and/or Zika virus in the U.S., including Beaufort County. A cost-effective method for controlling these mosquitoes is to eliminate standing water on properties. I encourage all Beaufort County residents to join in this worthwhile program. Overall, your help with the “Fight the Bite” campaign will allow Mosquito Control personnel to focus on other important abatement efforts.

Many residents do not realize the surprising number of likely mosquito-breeding sources on their property. Any item that can hold water for more than a few days can breed mosquitoes. Homeowners and renters, even apartment dwellers, should inspect and correct (if needed) the following sites:

- **Birdbaths** – replace water or flush out at least once a week
- **Buckets, watering cans, drinking glasses, plastic cups, bottle caps, or any trash that can hold water** – store indoors or turn over; recycle or discard if trash
- **Cans and containers** – discard, store indoors, turn over, drill holes in the bottom, or empty after each rain event
- **Catch basins** – do not store yard waste (leaves, branches, grass clippings) or organic landscape material near these structures
- **Children’s toys** – store inside or in manner that prevents water collection
- **Drainage ditches and culverts** – remove grass clippings, weeds, or trash to ensure proper water flow
- **Dripping outdoor faucets or air conditioners** – repair faucet or leaking pipes; ensure proper water runoff for A/C units
- **Failed septic systems** – repair or replace
- **Flat roofs** – evaluate for water collection
- **Flexible, corrugated plastic pipe** – replace with smooth pipe
- **Garbage cans (including upturned lids) or other barrels** – cover or drill holes in bottom; keep lid on can or reorient in manner that prevents water collection; cover with fine-mesh screen if collecting rainwater
- **Hollow fence posts without caps** – install post caps
- **Kayaks, canoes, or boats** – turn kayaks or canoes upside down; cover with tight-fitting tarp or store indoors; pump out bilge
- **Old tires** – recycle or store in manner that prevents water collection

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- **Ornamental ponds** – add minnows (or other fish) or recirculation pump
- **Outdoor grills** – cover; close vent
- **Pet water bowls** – provide fresh water each day and clean once a week
- **Pipes or plumbing supplies** – cover
- **Plastic in gardens to prevent weeds** – replace with landscape cloth
- **Playground equipment** – cover or store in manner that prevents water collection; discard if not in use
- **Potted plants and saucers** – empty saucers or flush out once a week; remove if not in use
- **Puddles in low spots** – drain or fill with dirt
- **Roof gutters and spouts** – remove leaves, pine needles, or debris often to ensure proper water flow
- **Sump pumps** – cover with fine-mesh screen
- **Swimming pools or wading pools** – clean and chlorinate all pools; turn plastic pools upside down when not in use
- **Tarps** – empty water that collects in folds or sagging areas
- **Tree holes** – flush once a week or fill with sand
- **Under decks, porches, or outbuildings** – fill depressions with dirt
- **Wheelbarrows** – turn upside down when not in use
- **Zealous summary for any item capable of holding water** – clean, cover, discard, drain, drill holes, empty or flush once a week, repair, replace, turn over, or store properly

Fight the Bite! Target the Sources! Eliminate Standing Water!

For more information about Beaufort County Mosquito Control, please call 843-255-5800 or visit the directory at:

<http://www.bcgov.net>

Thanks for your support!

Gregg J. Hunt, Director

