

Mosquito-Borne Disease

Although rare, viral diseases that can be spread by mosquitoes in San Diego include:

- West Nile Virus
- Zika
- Dengue
- Yellow Fever
- Chikungunya



Wear long sleeves and pants or use repellent to help protect yourself. Contact your doctor if you become ill after you have been bitten by mosquitoes.

Mosquito Inspections

We offer free, educational mosquito inspections to San Diego County residents. During an inspection, a vector technician will:

- Give advice on mosquito prevention
- Look for mosquito breeding sources around your property
- Treat water sources if needed



Request an inspection or report green swimming pools or other mosquito activity by contacting the Vector Control Program.

TOP TIPS!

- 1 Dump out standing water to prevent mosquito breeding.
- 2 Can't dump it? Use mosquitofish or treat water with a larvicide.
- 3 Protect yourself from bites by using EPA-approved repellent.



Learn More!



Learn more about mosquitoes at SDFightTheBite.com

And follow us on social media as @SDFightTheBite

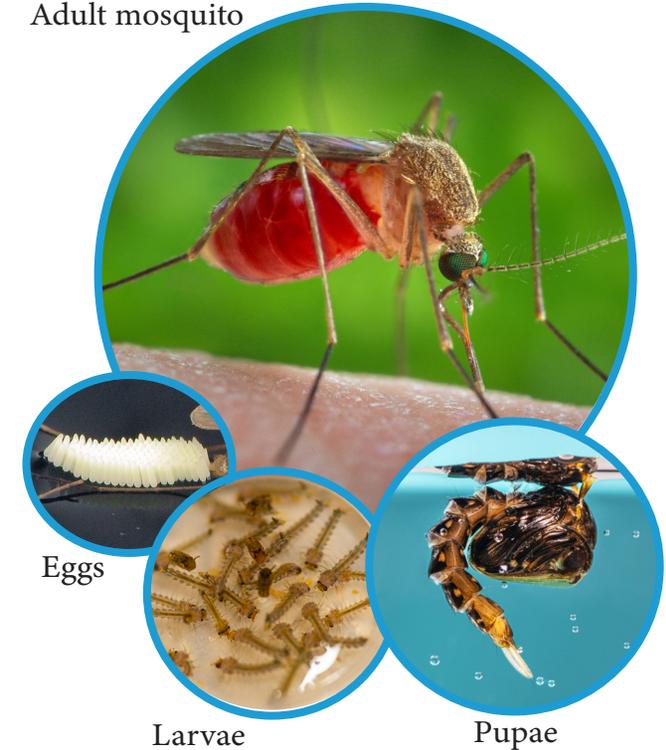


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Mosquitoes

Mosquito prevention and control in San Diego County

Adult mosquito



Eggs

Larvae

Pupae



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
 Environmental Health and Quality
Vector Control Program

Common Mosquitoes

Invasive *Aedes* Mosquito



Culex Mosquito



Invasive *Aedes*: These “ankle biters” are small black and white mosquitoes that bite during the day, especially around the ankles. They lay eggs in small amounts of water close to where people live.

***Culex* mosquitoes:** Active when it is dark outside. Breed in natural water ways and man-made sources, including those in backyards.

Salt marsh mosquitoes: Live near coastal marshes and have a long flight range. Often hatch in large numbers.

The Mosquito Lifecycle



Eggs: Mosquitoes lay eggs in or near standing water (see examples to the right).

Larva: These “wigglers” are young mosquitoes that can’t survive outside of water.

Pupa: The adult mosquito grows inside the pupa and is no longer eating.

Adult: Only the females bite. It takes about 1 week in the water to grow into biting adults. Adults live for about 2 weeks.

Prevent Mosquito Breeding



Change water weekly or add sand or fine gravel to plant saucers to prevent mosquitoes.



Dump out water that collects in unused toys and other items around the home.



Keep buckets and watering cans dry. Store them upside-down or cover with lids.



If water is not running in ponds or fountains, add mosquitofish or use larvicide.



Unclog gutters and drains. Cover drains with fine mesh. Repair leaking faucets and sprinklers.



Cover all openings on rain barrels with fine mesh screen. Use larvicide if it can’t be covered.



Green swimming pools should be repaired or drained. Otherwise, add mosquitofish or use larvicide.

Control Mosquitoes

Mosquitofish

Mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*) are small, freshwater fish that eat mosquito larvae. We provide free mosquitofish for use in backyard ponds and other human-made water sources.



Bacterial Larvicide

Bacterial larvicide, like Bti, controls mosquito larvae where standing water cannot be removed. They are available in granules, briquettes, and liquid forms. These products are not harmful to people, pets, plants, or wildlife.

Prevent Mosquito Bites

Using mosquito repellent is the best way to prevent bites where mosquitoes are active. Use EPA-approved insect repellents like:



- DEET
- Picaridin
- IR3535
- Para-menthane-diol
- 2-undecanone
- Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus

Other tips:

- Wear loose fitting, light-colored clothing.
- Fix broken and torn screen windows or doors.
- Use fans to keep mosquitoes away.