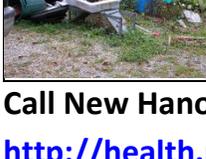


NEW HANOVER COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL BACK YARD TIPS:

WATER + 7 DAYS = MOSQUITOES

Places to check:	Actions you can take to keep your yard from becoming a breeding ground for mosquitoes...	YES	NO	N/A
	Make sure pet bowls are scrubbed/washed twice a week.			
	Make sure items like wheel barrels or buckets cannot hold water. Keep these items turned over or stored under cover. Even the lip of a bucket can produce mosquitoes.			
	Check for old tires and either get rid of them or keep them under a roof. Drill holes in the bottom of a tire swing or fill it with sand. New Hanover County Landfill accepts 5 tires per individual for free.			
	Dump the water in your plant saucer 2x/week or make sure they do not have standing water and scrub these often to remove mosquito eggs. These can produce 100s of mosquitoes so it's best to not use them at all.			
	Kayaks and canoes can be large reservoirs for mosquitoes. Keep these turned upside down so the water can drain out entirely.			
	Do you have a kid's pool? Where is it stored? Is it holding water? Is the water cleaned once a week? Even when empty and not in use, the folds in the pool can hold water that can breed mosquitoes.			
	Make sure you clean and scrub the bird bath once a week to remove mosquito eggs. Flush it with fresh tap water.			
	Check wagons, planting containers, watering cans, etc. These can all hold water too!			
	Don't leave toys outside. Put them under cover because they can collect water and mosquitoes love to lay their eggs in these toys. If water can get into them, so can mosquitoes.			
	Fill your tree holes with sand so they do not hold water. Before there were containers, certain mosquitoes naturally laid their eggs in tree holes.			
	Make sure to clean the gutters and remove all leaf debris so that rain water can flow out. These are great places to check for mosquito larvae as they are out of site and out of mind.			

	Trash cans and recycle containers can hold water too. Make sure they have tight fitting lids and if not, make sure to drill many holes in the bottom of them so water will drain from them entirely.			
	Jars, cans and any container can hold water. Look for these in your yard and dump the water out and discard, store under cover or recycle these items (Tip and Toss).			
	Pool covers often get neglected and will hold rainwater that can produce many mosquitoes. Make sure the pool cover is tented in the middle to shed all water off the cover. If not, treat with a mosquito larvicide.			
	Tarps can be used to cover things that hold water, but if they are not used right, they can breed mosquitoes too. Empty water 2x/week that collects in folds and sagging areas. Tighten/straighten so water runs off.			
	Mosquitoes will travel down gutter spouts to the corrugated pipe that is underground and lay eggs where water stands. Use a rain barrel instead, w/a tight fitting screen so mosquitoes cannot enter to lay their eggs.			
	Boats should be covered so that water does not accumulate in the different compartments. Check around the pump and make sure all water can be drained. If not, treat these areas with a mosquito larvicide.			
	Check screens and seals on rainwater tanks. Make sure they are tight fitting and that there are no large holes in the screen. Mosquitoes can fit through small openings.			
	Check lids of buckets and containers to make sure they do not hold water. If they do, keep these under cover.			
	Clean out your ditches around your home so that the water will flow freely. Mosquitoes will not lay their eggs in moving water. If your ditches don't drain, try stocking them with small native fish.			
	Keep the water flowing in your ornamental pond or make sure you stock your pond with native fish. Small fish are natural predators of mosquito larvae along with other creatures such as tadpoles.			
	Depressions in the yard can hold water. Plant native plants that can live in wetter soil (such as a rain garden). These plants will do the work for you by sucking up the water and adding beauty to your yard.			
	Educate your neighbors about the places mosquitoes can breed. Hopefully, they will do their part too so that everyone will be able to enjoy the outdoors more freely without getting bit by mosquitoes.			

Call New Hanover County Vector Control for more information: (910) 798-6667 or visit us on the web at <http://health.nhcgov.com/your-environment/public-health/>