

FIGHT THE BITE, DAY & NIGHT

PREVENTING STAGNANT WATER

With concerns about the spread of mosquito-borne illnesses like Zika, West Nile, and Chikungunya viruses, it's important to stay proactive in preventing the spread of mosquitos. Mosquito populations are starting to grow in central Texas due to warmer weather, spring showers, and spring garden watering. Here are a few tips you can use to prevent mosquitos from spreading in your local area



1. Dump or Drain any stagnant water –even if it's a tiny amount

Mosquitos can breed in as small as a teaspoon of stagnant water. After watering your yard or rainfall, check your flower pots, fountains, buckets, or other objects for leftover stagnant water. Dump, drain, and flip over any empty containers that collect water.



2. Identify standing water on your property

Austin is prone to flooding and heavy rains, but if there is a part of your property where the water doesn't drain, like a ditch or depression, fill or drain it quickly. For consistent drainage issues, you may have to do some DIY, but if stagnant water stays in a low lying area for a long period of time, it can produce swarms of mosquitos, so it's best to address it as soon as you notice it.



3. Call 311 to report any stagnant water in your local area

If you notice stagnant water in your area that isn't being addressed, call 3-1-1. A Code Officer will be assigned to work with the property owner to address the issue, so we can work together to keep mosquito populations at bay.

For updates and more information on the mosquito-borne illness Zika and preventative measures follow this link: <http://austintexas.gov/zika>

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