

PERSONAL PROTECTION

- Use window and door screens to exclude mosquitos from your home. Kill mosquitos with a fly swatter.
- Avoid going to areas where mosquitoes are more prevalent such as shady, overgrown, or wet areas.
- Wearing long, loose-fitting, and light-colored clothing can reduces the number of bites but is not the most efficient protection measure.
- Treated mosquito nets are a highly effective barrier that physically and chemically prevents mosquitoes from entering a given area and is a great way to protect yourself while camping, outside on your patio, or even in your bedroom.
- Ultraviolet zappers are another widespread way to reduce the number of mosquitoes and other bugs in the neighboring vicinity by attracting them to the light and then administering lethal charge.
- Repellents that contain DEET or another EPA-registered ingredient like picaridin, IR3535, or oil of lemon eucalyptus can repel mosquitoes by affecting their sense of smell and taste. Always read the label and follow directions. Consult with a pediatrician before using on young children.

MORE INFORMATION

Environmental Protection Agency—Finding and Using Repellents

<https://www.epa.gov/insect-repellents/>

Riverside County Department of Environmental Health—Vector Control

<https://www.rivcoeh.org/OurServices/VectorControl>

Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California

<https://www.mvcac.org/amg/wp-content/uploads/MVCAC-IVM-White-Paper.pdf>

Coachella Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District <https://www.cvmosquito.org/>

CDC—Mosquitoes

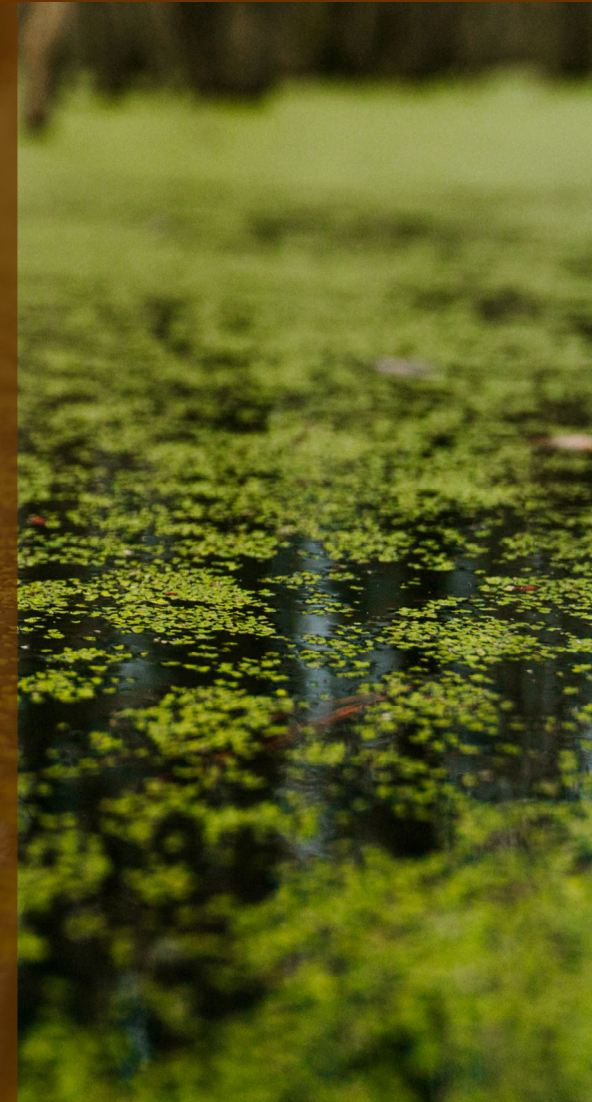
<https://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes/index.html>

MORONGO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT



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Preventing Mosquitoes



Resource Conservation



Morongo Environmental
Protection Department

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DANGERS OF MOSQUITOES

Mosquitoes are extremely dangerous and one of the world's deadliest animals. Many mosquitoes bite during dusk and dawn, but now, non-native mosquito species can be found in California and these species bite during the day. Not only do they annoy us and bite us, they also carry a variety of diseases and viruses that can result in sickness or even death. There are a variety of 'vector-borne' diseases transmitted through mosquito bites including Zika, West Nile, Chikungunya, dengue, and malaria.

There are particular methods to prevent these encounters from worsening. The County of Riverside has numerous vector control offices, each with smaller districts that help reduce the number of vector-borne illnesses and manage mosquito populations. We can also participate in preventative measures as individuals to help reduce the spread of vector-borne illnesses affecting our community, such as preventing breeding sites, removing stagnant water, wearing protective clothing, and using repellents.



TAKING ACTION

Prevent Mosquito Breeding Sites

Mosquitoes need very little water to spawn. Mosquito eggs can survive for over eight months without any water and will spawn in stagnant water wherever they can find it.

- Make sure that birdbaths and fountains are regularly scrubbed clean to remove and prevent mosquito eggs.
- Make sure your pool is maintained with proper chemicals and filtering.
- Clean your gutters often to prevent clogs and stagnant water.
- Check your yard for sources of stagnant water which can include plant saucers, buckets, tires, rain barrels, children's toys and pools, recyclables, and yard clutter and litter. Tip stagnant water and toss unused containers. Put away toys and clean up debris.
- Mosquitos are also commonly found around humid and shady plants including ivy, hedges, dense bushes, and overgrown plants. Landscaping with California native plants and reducing dense vegetation helps reduce breeding grounds.
- Mosquitoes can complete their lifecycle for egg to adult in one week! Check weekly!



Chemical and Biological Control

County vector control programs use pesticides and biological control to reduce mosquito populations. One method of biological control sterilizes males which are then released into wild populations. Mosquitos only mate once before dying so this results in unfertilized eggs and a decrease in populations. Another approach is using natural predators that feed on mosquito larvae and pupae in standing water such as the mosquitofish. Mosquitofish are easy to maintain and help ensure that neglected or "green" swimming pools, fountains, ponds, birdbaths, animal troughs, and other standing water sources are not used as hatching grounds for mosquitoes.

Chemical larvicides, which kill mosquito larvae, and adulticides, which kill adults, are effective measures to control populations but are labor intensive and require precise timing and often large scale applications to control mosquito populations.

There are residential/DIY options for chemical mosquito control. These insecticides typically use pyrethrins as an active ingredient which is highly toxic to many insects including bees and are therefore not recommended.

