



The Asian tiger and yellow fever mosquitoes are breeding in **every day** items in **your neighborhood**.

Do You Recognize these Mosquitoes?

Pick One Day Each Week to Check for Hidden Breeding Sites

The Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*) and the yellow fever mosquito (*Aedes aegypti*) have become significant pests because they closely associate with humans. In addition to being active at dusk and dawn, they typically fly and feed in the daytime. These mosquitoes can spread dengue fever, chikungunya, Zika, yellow fever viruses, and other illnesses.

The Asian tiger and yellow fever mosquitoes breed **ONLY** in containers of water, not in puddles, ponds, or ditches, and the best way to control them is by eliminating their breeding places. Encourage your neighbors to do the same.

Please see the back for items we found in your yard that breed mosquitoes.



**Hillsborough
County Florida**

For more information on preventing mosquitoes or to report mosquito concerns:

**Hillsborough County Public
Works Mosquito Management
Services**

(813) 635-5400

HCFLGov.net/Mosquito

Help Fight the Bite

Pick One Day of the Week to Be Your Mosquito Inspection Day

Date: _____

☐ Homeowner present during inspection

☐ Sorry we missed you today

Address: _____

Neighborhood Inspector: _____

An inspection of your property was made and the following mosquito breeding sites were found. Any water that collects in these items provides a perfect place for mosquitoes to lay their eggs. The items checked below need to be on your weekly inspection list; they will breed mosquitoes.

☐ Asian tiger or yellow fever mosquito adults present

Mosquito Breeding Sites

Active Breeding Site/Larvae Present

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bird Bath... change water once/week | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boat and/or Cove | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buckets | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrugated Drain Pipe | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Pond | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flower Pots and Trays | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Items Behind Your Shed | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Items Under Your Deck | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pet Food/Water Bowls | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rain Gutters | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rain Barrels and Cisterns | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recycling Bin(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming Pool | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tarp(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tire(s)... dispose of or drill holes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toys | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trash Can(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watering Can | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wheelbarrows/Utility Carts | <input type="checkbox"/> |

NOTES:

Where are the spray trucks?

When a resident contacts Mosquito Management with a request for service, they are concerned about the level of mosquito activity in the neighborhood, and seeking relief. At one time we would dispatch a spray truck to blanket the area with pesticide.

While this practice brought short term relief, time and research has shown it to be ineffective in the long run. The concept of Integrated Pest Management and state regulations dictate that we combine a variety of approaches to reduce the mosquito population, including source reduction and larviciding, in addition to use of aerosolized pesticide.



It is often surprising to homeowners that such a large number of mosquitoes can be reared in a very small amount of water, such as a birdbath, stagnant fountain, bucket, or old tire.

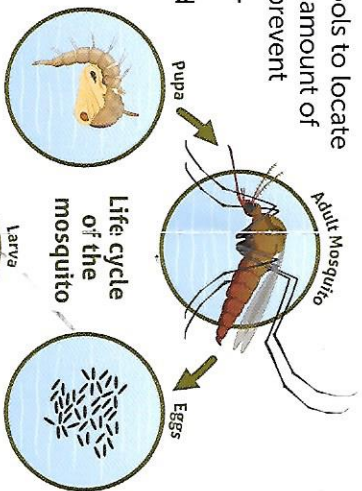
Our first response to a resident's request for service is to inspect the area to see if we can locate the aquatic source of the mosquitoes. Managing the larval habitat site will provide a long term solution to mosquito infestations. Even bromeliads and other hollow-stemmed plants can be substantial mosquito nurseries.



Why is it important to reduce or treat standing water?

Mosquitoes need areas of standing water in which to lay their eggs. Once the eggs hatch, the water must remain for several more days while the mosquito larvae go through growth stages before changing into a pupa, and finally into full grown mosquitoes. Large swarms of mosquitoes in one area are often an indication of a breeding source nearby.

Our inspectors use a variety of tools to locate these areas. Once found, a small amount of larvicide is all that is required to prevent larval mosquitoes from maturing. This is the most efficient and environmentally-friendly method of mosquito control at our disposal.



Even better than treating these sources is removing them, if possible. You can help with source reduction by rinsing out birdbaths, bromeliads, and pet dishes; disposing of old tires and other debris; and keeping rain gutters clear. Ornamental fish ponds should be stocked with fish, which will eat mosquito larvae.

What are midges?

Midges are mosquito-like flies in the family Chironomidae. They are often mistaken for mosquitoes but do not bite. They frequently collect in swarms in the late afternoon or evening, and are often attracted to outdoor lights close to streams, ponds, and lakes. They can be a nuisance due to their large numbers but are not a health hazard.

How do I know if I have midges or mosquitoes?

If you encounter a large swarm of what appear to be mosquitoes but are not being bitten, they are most likely midges.

When do you spray for mosquitoes?

As part of our targeted approach to adult mosquito control, we use data compiled from mosquito traps placed throughout the county, customer requests for service, and our inspectors' first-hand observations. This information, combined with wind and temperature readings, allows us to determine the most effective areas to deploy spray for maximum control. Our spray trucks and helicopter use Ultra Low Volume technology – emitting micro droplets of EPA-approved pesticide that briefly linger until they encounter a mosquito. Each droplet is calibrated to be just the right amount of pesticide to kill a mosquito. A hundred drops could fit on the head of a pin. Using a smaller amount of chemical is environmentally (and economically) beneficial.



I like to enjoy the sunset, but the mosquitoes are terrible. What can I do?

Experts recommend you avoid going outside at dusk and dawn, since that is when mosquitoes are most active. In Florida, mosquitoes come with the territory. We work hard to keep the population manageable but complete eradication is not possible. Mosquitoes are not strong fliers, and breezy evenings are best to enjoy the sunset without being bitten. You might also try an electric fan, in addition to mosquito repellent and protective clothing.