



If you see large areas of standing water on public property, report it to Westchester County Department of Health at (914) 813-5000.

For more information, visit us at www.westchestergov.com/health



Westchester
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George Latimer, County Executive
Sherlita Amler, MD, Commissioner
Department of Health



WESTCHESTER
COUNTY
CARES

Bug Off

Protect Yourself Against Mosquito Bites

The Department of Health Cares...

The Buzz About Mosquitoes

Aside from being itchy and annoying, the bite of an infected mosquito can spread viruses like West Nile, Zika, dengue and chikungunya. These viruses can cause serious illness and even death.

Some mosquitoes bite between dusk and dawn, while others feed during the day. In Westchester County, mosquitoes are usually present from early summer until late fall. In southern states and countries with warm year-round climates, mosquitoes can be active all year long.

Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water, and many will breed in any container that holds water, like flowerpots, wading pools, old tires, or even something as small as a bottle cap.

Protect Yourself

- Eliminate standing water around your home where mosquitoes can breed.
- Cover exposed skin by wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants and socks.
- Use EPA-registered insect repellents containing one of the following active ingredients: DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE), or IR3535. Always follow the product label instructions.
- Pregnant and breastfeeding women can use all EPA-registered insect repellents, including DEET, according to the product label instructions.
- Most repellents, including DEET, can be used on children ages two months and older. Always follow the product label instructions.

- Use permethrin-treated clothing and gear, such as boots, pants, socks, and tents.
- Stay and sleep in screened-in or air conditioned rooms.
- Make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens with no tears or holes.

Eliminate Standing Water

Remove old tires, buckets, wheelbarrows, toys and other items from your property that can collect water.

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Cover outdoor trash containers to keep rainwater from accumulating inside.

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Keep your gutters clear.

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Keep your property clear of objects or debris that can hold even tiny amounts of water.

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Drill holes in the bottoms of recycling containers that are left outdoors.

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Drain water in birdbaths, plant pots and drip trays twice a week.

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Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas and hot tubs. Keep them empty and covered if not in use; drain water that collects on their covers.