

## MOSQUITO FACTS

- There are over 30 different types of mosquitoes found in the Sydney area.
- Only female mosquitoes bite. Mosquitoes select their host by detecting a mix of attractants including carbon dioxide, warmth, odours and moisture, and also by sight at close distances.
- Mosquitoes can develop from egg to adult in one week during the warmer months.
- Temporary and permanent breeding sites include household items such as jars, tins and pot plant saucers.
- Mosquitoes are not all pests and not all species bite humans. Mosquitoes provide food for other insects, birds, bats, frogs and fish. Some mosquitoes may also help to pollinate plants.
- Mosquitoes can be found in a wide range of habitats and are a natural part of coastal wetland systems.
- Mosquito-borne diseases such as Ross River virus or Barmah Forest virus are unlikely at Sydney Olympic Park and Malaria and Dengue Fever are not present.
- Mosquitoes do not spread HIV/AIDS or hepatitis.
- Backyard breeding mosquitoes generally do not fly more than 100m to feed.



Dispose of tyres that may hold water after rain

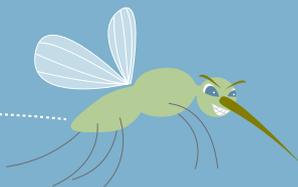
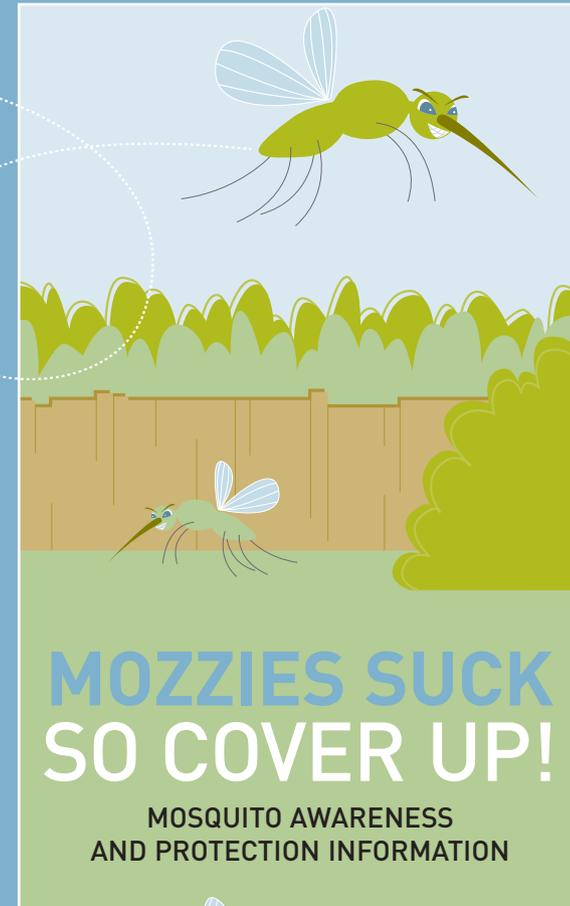


Empty pot plant saucers of excess water and replace with damp sand

THIS SUMMER  
**BE MOZZIE  
AWARE!**



Empty tarpaulins after rain



### MORE INFORMATION:

Department of Medical Entomology  
ICPMR / Westmead Hospital

Phone 02 9845 7548

Sydney Olympic Park Authority  
Mosquito Management Program

Phone 02 9714 7300

[www.sydneolympicpark.com.au](http://www.sydneolympicpark.com.au)



## AROUND THE YARD

### To minimise mosquitoes around your home you need to eliminate possible backyard breeding sites

- Check your property regularly for water holding containers or areas of pooling water.
- Empty or dispose of cans, bottles, tins, tyres, and other containers that may hold water after rain.
- Keep swimming pools chlorinated or salted, or empty them completely when not in use for long periods. Empty or upturn children's pools, sandpits or other play equipment that may hold water.
- Empty all pot plant saucers of excess water and replace with damp sand.
- Stock ponds with native fish that will feed on mosquito eggs and larvae. Mosquito fish and other exotic species should not be used.
- Overturn, cover or remove bungs from boats and trailers to prevent the accumulation of rainwater. Empty tarpaulins covering these objects after rain.
- Install roof guttering guards or ensure leaves and debris are cleaned from guttering to prevent blockages.
- Screen all openings to tanks, wells or other large water containers with wire gauze not coarser than 1mm aperture mesh.
- Change water regularly in bird baths, pet water bowls, small water features and water holding plants such as Bromeliads.
- Drain sumps and other water holding areas that cannot be emptied can be in-filled with sand, screened with mesh or treated with a commercially available larvicide.



## PROTECTION

### Personal protection is the best way to reduce biting by mosquitoes

- Avoid being unprotected when mosquitoes are most active which is around dusk and dawn, particularly close to wetland or bushland areas.
- Wear light-coloured loose fitting clothes including long sleeved shirts, long pants and enclosed footwear where possible.
- Apply an insect repellent to exposed skin. The best repellents contain at least 20% DEET or Picaridin.
- Burn insect repellent coils or sticks, or use electronic insect repellent.
- Ensure flyscreens are properly fitted to doors and windows. Cover chimney tops or ventilation vents during the summer months.
- Sleep under mosquito nets in unscreened houses or while camping.
- Spray an environmentally acceptable insecticide underneath beds, behind furniture and other dark places before dusk when mosquitoes are present.

## MOZZIE MANAGEMENT AT SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK

- Mosquitoes are always active during the warmer months with populations greatest during summer and early autumn, following rainfall or unusually high tides (spring tides).
- Sydney Olympic Park Authority in collaboration with scientists from the Sydney University Department of Medical Entomology implements a proactive and extensive mosquito management program aimed to reduce pest mosquitoes on lands under its care to improve comfort levels for people living, visiting and working in the area.
- Mosquito management is done by:

*Reducing mosquito habitats through improving tidal flushing of wetlands.*

*Helicopter and ground spraying of an environmentally friendly mosquito control product containing the bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti).*

- Bti targets the gut wall of the larvae, killing them before they become adults. The product is safe for people, pets, other fauna and the environment
- The program has been conducted at Sydney Olympic Park since 1998 and reduces mosquito numbers by up to 90%
- Mosquito breeding times and treatment days are highly dependent on tidal and rainfall conditions. Sydney Olympic Park scientifically monitors mosquito numbers, weather and tidal conditions and determines when treatment should occur. Between four-to-eight treatments can occur within the season.

