

Mosquito Source Reduction Checklist

Evidence-based Integrated Pest Management (IPM) | Non-commercial educational printout

Scope & Public Health Rationale:

A weekly 10-minute yard and drainage inspection protocol to eliminate standing water habitats where Culex and Aedes mosquitoes lay eggs. Aligned with CDC vector control.

1. Weekly 10-Minute Drainage Audit

- ☐ Tip and drain flowerpot saucers, planter drip trays, and plastic plant buckets.
- ☐ Empty and refill outdoor bird baths and pet drinking bowls with clean water every 4–5 days.
- ☐ Store wheelbarrows, canoes, toys, and buckets inverted so rainwater cannot collect.
- ☐ Inspect rain barrels; ensure intake screens (fine wire mesh) are intact without tears or gaps.
- ☐ Check corrugated plastic downspout extensions for standing water in interior ridges.

2. Structural Screening & Personal Protection

- ☐ Inspect all window and patio door screens for tears; patch or replace damaged mesh.
- ☐ Keep exterior doors closed; avoid leaving unscreened sliding glass doors open at dusk.
- ☐ Apply EPA-registered insect repellent (DEET, Picaridin, or IR3535) when outdoors at dawn/dusk.
- ☐ Wear light-colored, loose-fitting long sleeves and pants in heavily shaded or wooded areas.

3. Biological Larvicide Options

- ☐ Use Bti (*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*) dunks in standing water that cannot be drained.
- ☐ Bti specifically targets mosquito larvae without harming pets, fish, birds, or honeybees.

