

Artificial and Natural Containers that Serve as Habitats for Immature Mosquitoes Inside and Outside of Private Residences and Commercial Properties

All of the containers listed below can serve as habitats for immature mosquitoes. Such containers are responsible for many of the mosquito complaints across South Carolina each year.

1. buckets
 2. cans
 3. bottles
 4. jars and their lids, particularly those used to root plants
 5. children's toys, particularly plastic toys that can hold water
 6. abandoned swimming pools or plastic portable children's swimming pools
 7. wading pools
 8. tires
 9. wagons
 10. wheel barrows
 11. cups
 12. flower pots and their water-holding saucers
 13. bird baths - flush clean once or twice per week
 14. blocked gutters
 15. black ridged extension pipes that fit on gutter down-spouts
 16. tree holes that hold water
 17. root holes at the base of trees
 18. leaf axils of plants like bromeliads or elephant ear plants
 19. tarps over wood piles
 20. machinery like refrigerators, washers, freezers, junk autos, and farm equipment
 21. air conditioner drain areas
 22. hubcaps
 23. pipes driven into the ground
 24. pet water bowls
 25. trash cans
 26. ceramic bowls, like old toilets and tubs
 27. cement ponds, pools, cisterns, catch basins, and sump pits
 28. flat roofs in the shade that hold water
 29. boats and canoes
 30. hot tubs
 31. rain water barrels and other container
- During a normal year many mosquito complaints in South Carolina come from mosquitoes that were raised in artificial and natural waterholding containers in and around private residences and commercial properties. If these containers are properly disposed of or the water is dumped weekly, mosquitoes in the area are usually reduced to a manageable level, unless neighboring properties are producing the problem.
 - Cleaning up these containers is the responsibility of the owners of the property. Community or local area clean-up projects are of key value in resolving many mosquito problems. However, individual property owners still bear the responsibility of managing mosquito populations produced on their property that are causing a nuisance. Using this list to identify and eliminate most mosquito problem sites on their property will enable property owners to manage most of their mosquito problems. If mosquito problems are not resolved after using this list, then contact local mosquito control personnel for help.