

As we all know, mosquitoes are drawn to water. The removal or control of standing water is the best policy. During mosquito season many of us feel as though we are the only one mosquito seems to bother. While that feeling may have some truth to it, science reports that 1 in 10 of us are mosquito magnets. Those of us that are large, produce high levels of carbon dioxide, certain acids such as uric acid, and have higher concentrations of steroids and cholesterol, are found to be more to the mosquitoes liking.

Therefore, the removal of conditions that might promote a mosquito habitat should be considered. Areas to practice good monitoring are: keeping water features clean and chlorinated, aerate ponds, re-grade landscape areas that trap water, repair leaking valves, raise the soil level in depressed tree wells particularly in lawns, clean clogged landscape and street drain basins, perform annual roof gutter cleaning, and install relief holes in curbs, bowls & planter boxes that hold water.

## CONTROL MOSQUITO HABITATS IN THE LANDSCAPE

When the above items are addressed, you are following good "IPM," "integrated pest management" and the need for pesticides is reduced.

JPA works hard to increase awareness of conditions in landscapes. Please take advantage of irrigation inspections, gutter cleaning, and the many other landscape and building services JPA provides.

During mosquito season many of us feel as though we are the only ones the mosquitoes seem to bother. Have you ever wondered why mosquitoes seem to target some people while others seldom get bit? There is actually a logical explanation. Scientists report that 1 in 10 of us are mosquito magnets. Those of us that are large, produce high levels of carbon dioxide or certain acids such as uric acid, and have higher concentrations of steroids and cholesterol, are found to be more to the mosquitoes liking. Whether or not we fall into one of these categories, each of us must take part in minimizing the conditions that might promote mosquito habitats.

As we all know, mosquitoes are drawn to water. The removal or control of standing water is the best ongoing policy. Areas to monitor are:

- Keeping water features clean and chlorinated
- Aerating ponds
- Re-grading landscape areas that trap water
- Repairing leaking valves
- Raising the soil level in depressed tree wells, particularly lawns
- Cleaning clogged landscape and street drain basins
- Performing annual roof gutter cleaning
- Installing relief holes in curbs, bowls, and planter boxes that hold water.

By addressing the above items, you are practicing good "IPM" or Integrated Pest Management. This pro-active approach to tackling pests provides long-term solutions while reducing the need for the application of pesticides.

To learn more contact:

Center for Disease Control at [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/)

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