

FACT SHEET

Mosquitos on your premise

This Information Sheet is to help inform on mosquitos and ways you can help eliminate breeding areas on your property.

Information about Mosquitos

There are almost 100 species of mosquitoes in Western Australia and many of them can be serious pests, interfering with leisure and outdoor activities. Mosquitos bites cause discomfort and pain, particularly to babies and others with sensitive skin.

Only female mosquitoes bite. They need blood to be able to develop their eggs. While taking blood infected mosquitoes can pass on diseases-causing viruses and parasites. Exposure to large numbers may increase the chance of being infested with a mosquito borne disease.

Breeding

Mosquitos breed in standing water - such as may occur in old car tyres and other water holding containers, pot plant drip trays, septic and water tanks, roof gutters, domestic ponds, etc. By eliminating or preventing access for mosquitos to these breeding sites you can help to permanently reduce the mosquito's numbers in your back yard. During summer the life cycle from egg to flying adult mosquito takes 7-10 days. In colder months the life cycle may take several weeks.

You can Help Eliminate Breeding on your Premises

- Dispose of all containers which hold water.
- Keep ornamental ponds stocked with mosquito-eating fish, e.g. goldfish. Keep margins free of vegetation.
- Keep swimming pools well chlorinated and filtered and free of dead leaves.
- Fill drains or depressions in the ground that hold water.
- Vent pipes on septic tanks systems must be fitted with mosquito proof cowls. Seal any gaps between concrete lids and that inspection openings are covered.
- Screen rainwater tanks with insect proof mesh, including inlet, overflow and inspection ports. Ensure guttering does not hold water.
- Empty pot plant drip trays once a week or fill with sand. Empty and clean animal and pet drinking water once a week.

- Some pot plants (such as bromeliads) hold water in their leaf axils. These should be emptied of water once a week.

More Information

Contact the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder Environmental Health Services Team on 9021 9600 or email mailbag@ckb.wa.gov.au.