



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
State Reclamation  
and Mosquito Control Board**



## **Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project**

### **The 3 D's of Protection from Mosquitoes**

**Drain:** Many mosquito problems in your neighborhood are likely to come from water-filled containers that you, the resident, can help eliminate. All mosquitoes require water in which to breed. Be sure to drain any standing water around your house.

- Dispose of any tires. Tires can breed thousands of mosquitoes.
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers.
- Clear roof gutters of debris.
- Clean pet water dishes regularly.
- Check and empty children's toys.
- Repair leaky outdoor faucets.
- Change the water in bird baths at least once a week.
- Canoes and other boats should be turned over.
- Avoid water collecting on pool covers.
- Empty water collected in tarps around the yard or on woodpiles.
- Plug tree holes.
- Even the smallest containers that can collect water can breed hundreds to thousands of mosquitoes. They don't need much water to lay eggs (bottles, barrels, buckets, overturned garbage can lids, etc).

**Dress:** Wear light colored, loose-fitting clothing. Some mosquito species are attracted to dark clothing and some can bite through tight-fitting clothes. When practical, wear long sleeves and pants.

**Defend:** Choose a mosquito repellent that has been registered by the Environmental Protection Agency. Registered products have been reviewed, approved, and pose minimal risk for human safety when used according to label directions. **See our Repellent information at [www.plymouthmosquito.org](http://www.plymouthmosquito.org).**