



## Say "No!" to Mosquitoes! Controlling Mosquitoes Around Your Home

By the Ponds and Preserves Committee

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The summer months bring much-needed rains to Rivendell, which also means those pesky mosquitoes. Not only are their nasty bites annoying, some of these pests carry very undesirable diseases.

### The Best Defense Against Mosquitoes? Prevent or Remove Breeding Sites Around Your Yard!!



Mosquitoes breed in stagnant and sitting water - such as: ditches, birdbaths, bromeliad plants, lawn ornaments, plant saucers, outdoor containers, swamps, puddles, clogged rain gutters, mangroves, kid's toys, abandoned pools, and many other small places where sitting water can collect. However, mosquitoes rarely lay eggs in ponds or lakes, as there is a wealth of natural predators that consume the larvae.

It's important to dump all outdoor containers several times each week to prevent stagnant, standing water to collect and create a breeding ground for mosquito larvae. Mosquitoes can lay their eggs in as little as one inch of water. Look around your yard and get rid of any container that may hold even a little bit of water. Clear clogged downspouts and drains and pick up any litter or debris. Following these simple steps will help reduce mosquitoes and improve your outdoor family fun.

Sarasota County is very focused on mosquito management and uses a variety of techniques to track and reduce mosquito populations, including placing mosquito fish in small water bodies where needed, installing traps, and spraying responsibly. For more tips, visit: [Sarasota County Mosquito Management Services](#).

Say "*Thanks!*" to the many backyard critters who eat mosquitoes - anoles, dragonflies, spider, snakes, bats, fish, turtles, and many others that share our yards and ponds. Let's all do our part to reduce mosquito breeding sites around our homes so we can all enjoy the great outdoors at Rivendell.