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- ◆ Standing water in flowerpot saucers can also become a habitat for mosquitoes if left more than a few days.

**Mosquito Fish** are used worldwide for mosquito control. They are most effective in bodies of water. They can be obtained at most vector control districts.

*Bacillus thuringiensis subsp. israelensis* attacks the mosquito larvae by ingestion. It is selective, killing species of larvae, mosquitoes and flies. Homeowners can purchase the “Mosquito Dunk” readily.

**Outdoor Sprays.** Use insecticide sprays or outdoor foggers to control mosquito population. This can be useful if having a gathering outside, but does not have a lasting effect.

**Personal Protection** is one of the most effective methods to avoid mosquito bites. When mosquitoes are dense, avoid being outdoors. They are known to bite predominantly in the morning afternoon and after the sun goes down.

**Repellents.** First, minimize the exposed skin...wear a hat, head net, long trousers and a long-sleeved shirt. Also, apply a mosquito repellent, such as DEET, which usually last about 4 hours.

### Resources

University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. *Pest Notes*: February 1998. <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>.  
Wikipedia. Wikimedia Foundation, Inc. May 22, 2006. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mosquito>.

### (Footnotes)

<sup>1</sup> University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. *Pest Notes*: February 1998.

## Checklist of Possible Mosquito Sources Around the Home

Mosquito Sources	What to do to Reduce Mosquitoes
Ponds	Stock pond with fish or use <i>Bacillus thuringiensis subsp. israelensis</i> . Remove excess vegetation.
Swimming Pools	Keep water off cover. Maintain water quality at all times.
Tree holes	Fill hole with sand or mortar.
Plastic pools	Drain water when not in use or cover so mosquitoes cannot lay eggs.
Containers	Empty water. Store in an inverted position. Dispose. Cover so mosquitoes cannot lay eggs.
Bird Baths	Change water at least once a week.
Standing water	Eliminate by draining. Fill in low areas.
Watering troughs	Stock with fish or change water weekly.
Cooler drains	Prevent water from standing.
Street gutter or catch basins	Keep litter and garden debris out of gutter. Do not over water yard.
Cesspool or septic tanks	Seal and cover opening so mosquitoes can't lay eggs.
Roof gutters	Clean once a year to remove debris.
Irrigated lawns or fields	Avoid over irrigation. Drain standing water.

*Adapted from the Sacramento/Yolo Mosquito & Vector Control District*