

## UNDERSTANDING THE VIRUS

The Zika virus itself is not deadly. Some of its suspected effects can be. Key facts to know about the virus:

- Usually **causes mild symptoms**, like fever and joint pain.
- **Only 20% show symptoms** if infected.
- **Humans can transmit** the virus. This is different than West Nile Virus.
- Is **strongly linked to microcephaly**, a serious birth defect of babies born to infected mothers.
- **Infected men can transmit sexually** to partners.
- The virus is also suspected to be **transmitted via blood transfusion**.

## FIGHTING ZIKA IN THE COMMUNITY

Control approaches to fight mosquitoes that can carry Zika need to be different than common mosquito interventions for diseases like West Nile Virus, EEE or St. Louis encephalitis.

- **Inspections may take place on your property** by authorized agencies to treat standing water breeding sites. Please cooperate and provide access if asked.
- Customary adult control treatments normally done after sundown and late into the evening **may adjust to an hour before sundown**, or even an hour after sunrise. These are ultra-low volume applications done with trucks with sprayers.
- **A human case may trigger intensive inspection and treatment** of properties within a 1/8 to 1/2 mile radius of the human case (usually a center of street GPS location provided by the state health department).

Remember, **YOU can transmit Zika if infected!** All the more reason to use CDC-recommended mosquito repellent (like DEET) as a matter of habit, both indoors and outdoors, to help reduce exposure to West Nile, Zika or any mosquito borne virus in the area.

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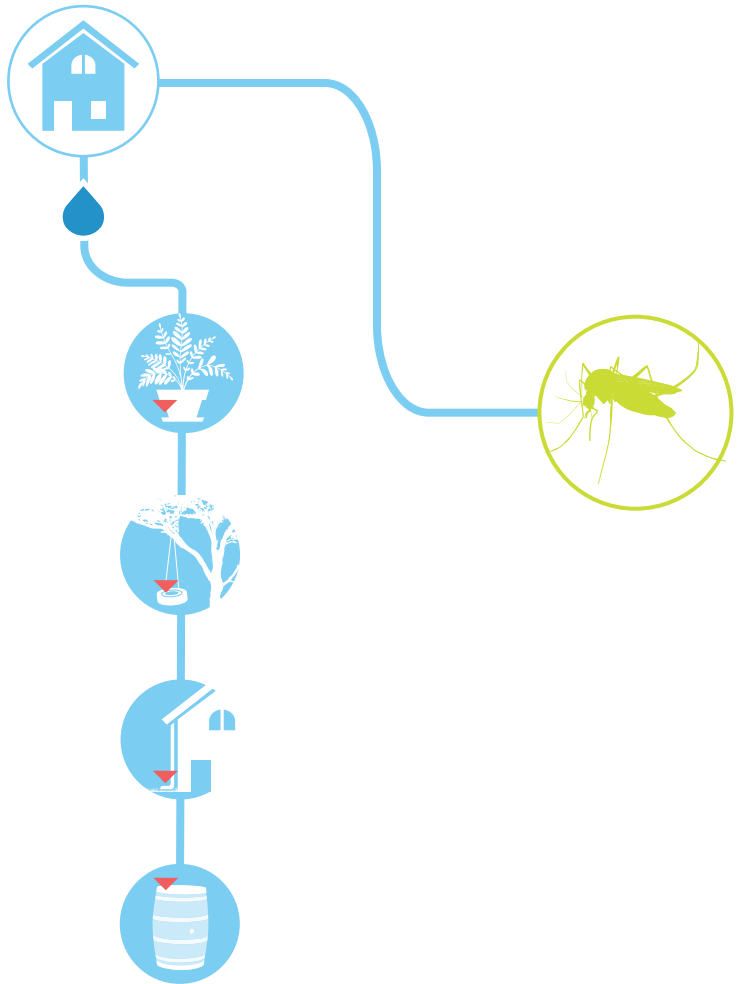


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# FIGHT ZIKA TOGETHER

A Resident Guide to Reducing  
the Risk of Zika Virus

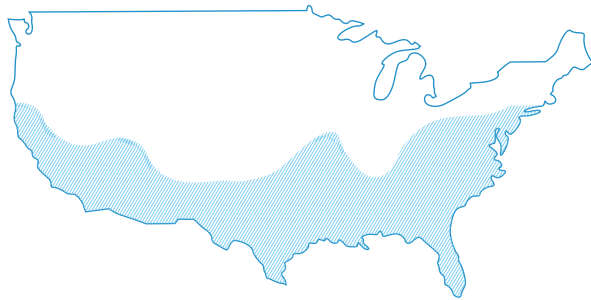


## UNDERSTANDING MOSQUITOES THAT CARRY ZIKA

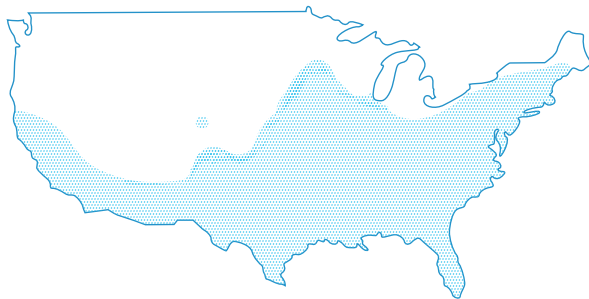
The Zika virus is a mosquito-borne disease carried by the same mosquitoes that transmit dengue, yellow fever and chikungunya disease. Out of 176 recognized mosquito species in the U.S., two, *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*, have demonstrated the ability to transmit the virus. Things you need to know about these two species:

- They are **day-biters**, so they are outside when you are outside.
- They **breed in very small amounts of still water**, e.g. less than a bottle cap is enough!
- **Prefer to live around humans**, i.e. around your home.
- Females (the only ones that bite) prefer to feed on humans (vs. animals or birds).
- They are **present in over half of the U.S.** See map at: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/vector/index.html>

### *Aedes Aegypti* in the U.S.



### *Aedes Albopictus* in the U.S.

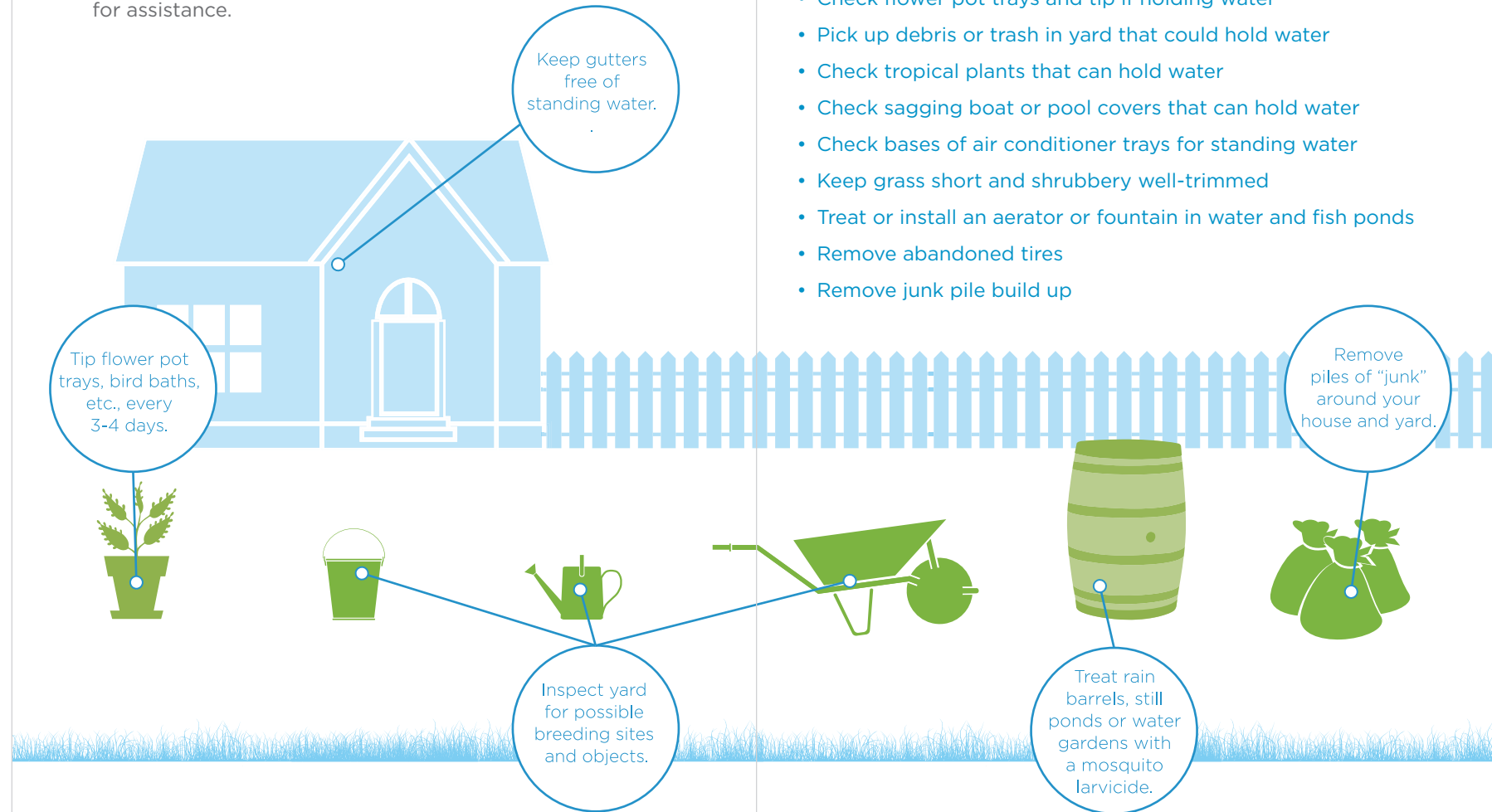


## FIGHTING ZIKA: YOU ARE THE BEST FRONT LINE DEFENSE!

Because most of the preferred breeding sites and feeding preferences for *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* are **around your home**, you are the best guard against them.

To limit populations of these species, every four days do a quick scouting of your yard.

- **Tip & turn** any small items that are holding even an ounce of water.
- **Treat** still water ponds or bird baths with a larvicide, usually available at a nursery or home improvement center. (Mosquitoes won't breed in running water or water agitated by a fountain or aerator.)
- **Toss** trash that has built up. If you have a lot, ask the city for assistance.



## YARD & HOME CHECKLIST

- Repair screens and keep garage doors closed. (*Aedes* mosquitoes prefer to rest indoors at night)
- Keep your gutters clear
- Fill or drain any low areas in your yard that can hold water for several days after a rain.
- Fill tree holes with sand
- Keep children's toys picked up or at least turned over
- Cover trash cans
- Tightly cover rain barrels
- Empty kiddie pools every 4 days
- Exchange water in bird baths every 4 days
- Check flower pot trays and tip if holding water
- Pick up debris or trash in yard that could hold water
- Check tropical plants that can hold water
- Check sagging boat or pool covers that can hold water
- Check bases of air conditioner trays for standing water
- Keep grass short and shrubbery well-trimmed
- Treat or install an aerator or fountain in water and fish ponds
- Remove abandoned tires
- Remove junk pile build up