

Conducting a Mosquito Habitat Survey

Introduction

Mosquitoes lay their eggs in or around water. Anything that collects water could become a mosquito habitat - a place in which eggs, larvae, and pupae can live and grow. If you find standing water sources and dump or cover them, you can help reduce the local mosquito population and increase the safety and enjoyment of your outdoor spaces. Report mosquito habitats observed using the **GLOBE Observer app** (observer.globe.gov).

Safety

It is important that you follow local guidelines. If you live in an area with outdoor restrictions, please wait to do this activity. **When you do go outside to search for possible mosquito habitats, please:**

- wear long sleeves and long pants.
- bring along water-resistant gloves.
- apply insect repellent.
- always use caution; make observations safely.
- only collect data in places where you have permission to go.

Instructions for filling out the charts below

Go outside and look around for places where water has collected - anything that holds water could become home to mosquito eggs, larvae, and pupae. Use the water sources listed below as suggested places to start looking. Not all of those listed will be in your neighborhood or area. You may find a potential habitat site that is not listed; simply add it under "other." For habitats that you find, carefully examine the water for larvae and pupae, and the surrounding area for adult mosquitoes.

If you find any of the three life cycle stages (larvae, pupae, or adults), check the appropriate column. Repeat your search for mosquitoes in these habitats at least two more times over the next few weeks. Each time you find any of the three life cycle stages, check the appropriate box. Did you find larvae or pupae in places that you did not find them the first time you checked? Did you find them each time in some of the places you looked? If possible, remember to empty, cover, turn over, or throw out any items that hold standing water. Wear your gloves to do this.

Tips on how to fill out your data

Mosquito key

Larva

Pupa

Adult

Record the date, temperature, rain, and mosquitoes observed

Sheet has room for three separate observation days

	Date: <u>Sept. 3, 2020</u>	Date: <u>Sept. 14, 2020</u>	Date: <u>Sept. 23, 2020</u>
	Temperature: High: <u>75 F</u> Low: <u>55 F</u>	Temperature: High: <u>78 F</u> Low: <u>52 F</u>	Temperature: High: <u>68 F</u> Low: <u>50 F</u>
	Rain today? <u>Yes</u>	Rain today? <u>No</u>	Rain today? <u>No</u>
	Any mosquitoes observed? <u>Yes</u>	Any mosquitoes observed? <u>Yes</u>	Any mosquitoes observed? <u>No</u>
Artificial container			
Animal trough			
Bucket	X		X
Cement, metal, or plastic tank			
Flowerpot	X		

