

Mosquito Breeding Habitat Prevention Checklist for Golf Courses



The United States is home to hundreds of mosquito species, each posing its own dangers to humans, pets, and wildlife. Mosquitoes can carry nearly two dozen infectious diseases that cause a broad spectrum of symptoms, from itchy bites and rashes to life-threatening sickness. Mosquitoes can find ideal breeding habitats in any outdoor space, particularly golf courses where water plays a central role in course design and provides a source for turf irrigation. The surrounding natural woodland and wetland areas on courses also present prime breeding habitat for mosquitoes, as these areas are typically not maintained and hold standing water for extended periods of time. Something as small as a bottle cap can hold dozens of mosquito larvae, so dump any standing water you see!



Refer to our checklist on the back of this sheet to identify and eliminate common mosquito breeding habitats in your community.



Though mosquitoes are most active at dawn and dusk, they can pose risks to golfers and employees at any time of day. Identifying and eliminating mosquito breeding habitats on the grounds is key to keeping them safe from nuisance bites and infectious diseases like Zika, St. Louis Encephalitis, Yellow Fever, West Nile virus, and other dangerous pathogens.

Checklist for Identifying and Eliminating Mosquito Breeding Habitats



To lay their eggs, mosquitoes require standing water, which can collect in many unexpected places. Eradicating mosquitoes is no simple task. However, getting to the root of the problem by removing, cleaning, or regularly flushing sources of standing water can prevent populations from getting out of hand in the first place. Refer to this checklist when evaluating outdoor areas for standing water:

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✓	Check turf and bunkers to make sure water is draining properly
✓	Add fountains to irrigation ponds and lakes
✓	Fix leaking outdoor faucets and empty buckets
✓	Remove standing water from concrete paths and walking paths
✓	Fill potholes to avoid standing water
✓	Dry landscaping equipment after rainfall
✓	Keep drains, ditches, and culverts clean of weeds and trash
✓	Remove standing water from potted plants
✓	Keep grass cut and shrubbery trimmed
✓	Fill in tree holes and hollow stumps with sand or concrete
✓	Cover all trash receptacles



With the support of an Integrated Mosquito Management (IMM) program, superintendents and managers can educate employees about the identification and prevention of breeding habitats, as well as ways to better protect golfers as they enjoy the course.