

# Unwelcome Visitors Mosquitoes

## Did you know that mosquitoes love stagnant water?

On your property, you (as the owner or occupier) are responsible for removing stagnant water to avoid and prevent mosquitoes from breeding.

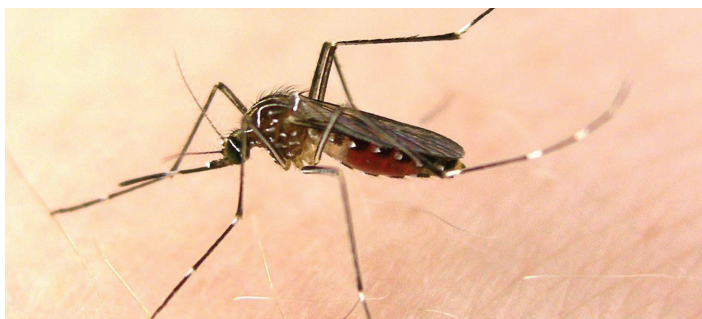
This work includes good design and maintenance of waterways, regular monitoring of potential breeding areas, identification of mosquitoes to help determine breeding habitat and treatment of breeding areas as appropriate.

Together we can prevent mosquitoes in our district.

## Mosquito breeding on private property

The most common nuisance mosquito in Canterbury is the *Aedes Notoscriptus*, also known as a 'container mosquito' or 'striped mosquito'. It was introduced into New Zealand in the 1920s and breeds in swampy areas and stagnant water. It can be found in natural containers, such as tree holes or rock pools, and has adapted to breeding in fabricated containers such as buckets, pot plant saucers, old jars, blocked roof gutters and old tyres.

In Canterbury this species breeds frequently around houses, where it commonly comes in contact with humans, and is an aggressive biter.



## Protect yourself and your family with these precautions

To prevent mosquitoes breeding on your property remove stagnant water sources.

Here are a few tips of what you can do:

- Inspect areas for stagnant water
- Empty buckets and containers
- Clear guttering
- Treat swimming pools
- Keep ponds populated with fish
- Remove old containers
- Drill holes in tyre swings
- Overturn boats
- Discuss the problem with neighbours so they can also remove all stagnant water.

If you have mosquitoes on your property, when outside and especially in the early evening, wear protective clothing such as long pants and long sleeves, and use mosquito repellent.

Outdoor mosquito protective products are available from many hardware stores.

For the mosquito treatment of larger water areas, such as disused swimming pools, there are several treatment options.

If mosquitoes are inside the house, use insect spray and consider screening windows.

**Note:** Mosquito prevention products are available online from Southern Monitoring Services Ltd at [smsl.co.nz](http://smsl.co.nz).

Find out more at [waimakariri.govt.nz](http://waimakariri.govt.nz), or contact Customer Services on 0800 965 468.