



# *Town of Darien*

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## *Health Department*

### State Issues Plan for Zika Virus Surveillance

The State Plan for ZIKA focuses on *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*, the mosquito species most likely to transmit Zika virus in Connecticut. Mosquito populations are monitored throughout the summer and tested for the presence of West Nile Virus, and this year for ZIKA, by the CT Agricultural Experiment Station. There are two mosquito trapping stations located in Darien and 77 additional stations in CT.

Since the mosquitoes that spread ZIKA do not fly very far and most often use small man-made containers to lay eggs, everyone can help in the control of the *Aedes* mosquitoes near their homes and places of work by:

- **Once a week**, empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out any items that hold water like tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, boat covers, birdbaths, fountains, flowerpot saucers, or trash containers. Don't forget to clean roof gutters! Mosquitoes lay eggs in warm, stagnant water and in containers as small as bottle caps.

Tightly cover water storage containers (buckets, cisterns, rain barrels) so that mosquitoes cannot get inside to lay eggs.

For containers without lids, use wire mesh screening with holes smaller than an adult mosquito.

Use larvicides that can be purchased at hardware stores to treat large containers of water that will not be used for drinking and cannot be covered or dumped out.

- Offer to help your neighbor if you notice potential breeding areas that are left unattended. Or, call your local Health Department.
- Use repellent with DEET & always follow the directions!
- See additional CDC recommendations at <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention/controlling-mosquitoes-at-home.html>

This office will provide updates on ZIKA as more information become available.

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