



Media release

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Beware of mosquitoes

The City of Albany is warning the community to beware of “backyard breeders” which can spread dangerous diseases such as Ross River Virus.

With the City currently going through a bad mosquito season, residents are reminded to be on the lookout for mosquito breeding areas on their properties.

Since October the City’s Environmental Health team has worked to bait and monitor mosquito prone areas such as drains and ponds, lakes around Middleton Beach, McKail and the CBD; and salt flats and tidal areas in the Lower King, Kalgan and Emu Point areas.

However, small breeding areas continue to be active in backyards and vacant or neglected blocks.

During the summer months, mosquitoes breed very quickly in standing water receptacles such as bird baths, old car tyres, open containers, pot plant drip trays, septic and water tanks, roof gutters and domestic ponds. These hazards need to be emptied regularly to break the mosquito breeding cycle.

A good tip to prevent mosquitoes breeding in rainwater tanks is to add a teaspoon of paraffin oil to form a slick on top of the water.

By eliminating or preventing breeding areas with simple measures like this, you not only permanently reduce mosquito numbers in your backyard, but also help to avoid the spread of diseases such as the Ross River and Barmah Forest viruses, and the heartworm threat to pet dogs.

Important personal safety measures to avoid being bitten include screening your house, using insect repellents, covering up with protective clothing and taking care during outdoor activities when mosquitoes are buzzing around.

Remember to check instructions before applying repellent sprays or lotions to young children.

For more information or to report mosquitoes breeding in a nearby vacant or neglected block, contact the City’s Environmental Health team on 9841 9333.

END