

# Pepperell Board of Health

## Mosquito Control

Historic Commonwealth of Massachusetts monitoring places Pepperell at low risk for mosquitos that carry EEE and West Nile Virus. Resident efforts to reduce mosquito populations is the most effective method to keep our town at low risk.

The Select Board, after conferring with the Board of Health and soliciting citizen input, voted to opt out of the State Aerial Mosquito Spraying Program for the 2021 season. This pamphlet is part of the alternate plan required when opting out of the state program. We are required to educate the community on ways to reduce mosquito populations and prevent blanket pesticide spraying of our town.

If the Commonwealth of Massachusetts declares a public health emergency related to mosquito borne illnesses, aerial spraying may take place.

### *Prevention & Source Reduction*

Tips to avoid being bitten by mosquitos

- ✓ Avoid going outdoors when mosquitos are most active from dusk to dawn
- ✓ Wear long pants and sleeves
- ✓ Apply mosquito repellants
- ✓ Reduce mosquito breeding sites.

*For more information, please visit:*

### *Mosquito facts:*

[www.massaudubon.org/our-conservation-work/advocacy/priority-legislation/mosquitoes/frequently-asked-questions](http://www.massaudubon.org/our-conservation-work/advocacy/priority-legislation/mosquitoes/frequently-asked-questions)

[www.mass.gov/info-details/mosquito-borne-disease-prevention](http://www.mass.gov/info-details/mosquito-borne-disease-prevention)

### *Pesticides and You:*

<https://communityactionworks.org/issues/pesticides/>

***Tip: Dragon Flies and Bats eat thousands of mosquitos each day. Installing a bat house and planting a dragonfly friendly garden can help. Also avoid bug zappers since they kill beneficial insects.***



[www.scarce.org/repel-mosquitoes-with-a-dragonfly-garden/](http://www.scarce.org/repel-mosquitoes-with-a-dragonfly-garden/)

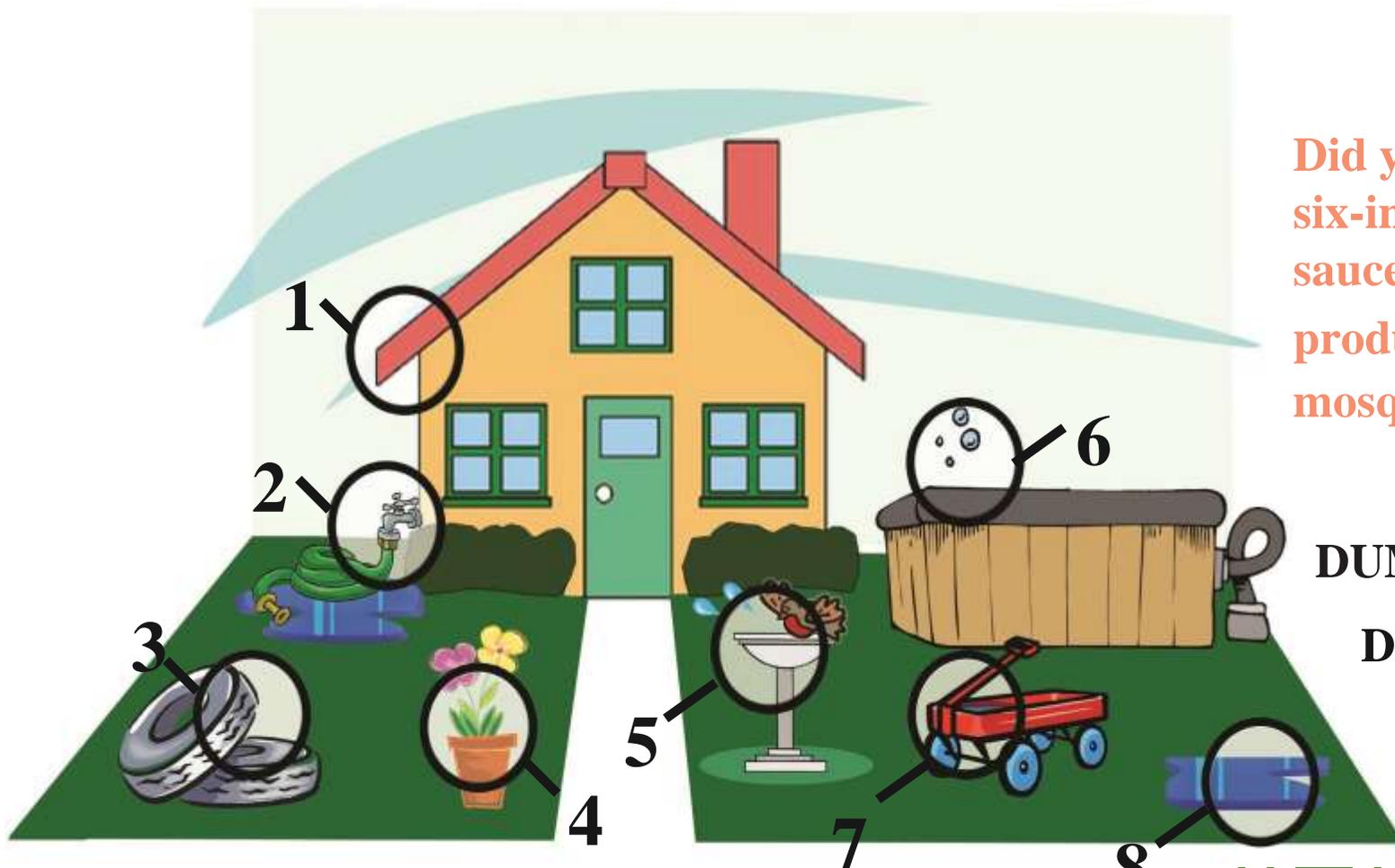
**It's not usually  
this obvious...**



***Prevention is key to our success.***

***Look inside to find out what YOU can do to send them packing.***

This brochure explains ways to reduce your risk of mosquito-borne diseases.



Did you know that a six-inch puddle or saucer of water can produce *1,000* mosquitoes a week?

**DUMP IT**

**DRAIN IT**

**CLEAN IT UP**

1. Keep gutters clean
2. Repair leaky faucets
3. Eliminate debris that holds water
4. Drain excess water from plant pots and saucers

5. Change birdbaths twice a week
6. Maintain pools and spas; keep water from pooling on covers
7. Turn toys and equipment upside down to prevent water from collecting inside
8. Avoid overwatering

If you have old tires or refuse outside collecting water, please consider disposing of these items at the Transfer Station. Reference fees and operating schedule here:

<https://town.pepperell.ma.us/238/It-ems-Accepted-for-a-Fee>

# Eliminate Mosquito Breeding Sites Where You Live