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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Preventing Mosquito Problems

In the past few months we have heard lots of stories on the news about Zika. It was mostly a concern for the 2016 Olympic Athletes who would be traveling to South America for the games in Brazil, so I guess we can blame it on Rio.

The Zika virus is spread by mosquitoes and as the summer continued we started to hear reports about cases of Zika in Florida. This is a problem that will most likely continue to spread to more of the United States in time. This is not the first or only concern with mosquitoes. If you remember West Nile Virus has been a concern for a few years now. It can be a very serious problem, too. There have been cases where this one has been fatal.

With the potential for mosquitoes to spread such harmful diseases, we need to take steps to reduce the risk of being bitten by a mosquito. First of all mosquitoes are most active late in the evening. You can also wear long sleeves, long pants and loose fitting clothing to cover as much of your skin as possible especially during the higher risk time of the day/evening. Second you may want to use an insect repellent with DEET. Third you may want to do what you can to reduce the population of mosquitoes by eliminating breeding areas for mosquitoes.

The breeding grounds do not have to be anything real obvious so here is a list of things to think about as you attempt to reduce mosquitoes around your home.

1. Keep swimming pools clean and covered, this would include in floating devices that may hold water for an extended amount of time.
2. Repair any leaking water around the home, even if it is just a drip.
3. Make sure all window screens are in good repair.
4. Clean gutters on a regular basis so they continue to flow freely.
5. Any ornamental ponds should have fish, like minnows, to prevent mosquitoes.
6. Clean bird baths at least weekly.
7. Clean up all trash, especially cups, cans or bottles that can hold water.
8. Turn over any unused pet or livestock water pans, including buckets. Livestock water troughs should be cleaned and refilled weekly.
9. Fill in holes that have puddles have a rain.
10. Check the seats on lawn mowers or tractors that might hold water.
11. Old tires. Tires are terrible for holding water and should either be stored inside or gotten rid of.

There are more, but this is a pretty decent list of things to think about as you try to eliminate mosquitoes, and breeding areas, in the future. The opportunity to get rid of tires is coming up very soon.



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Tire Amnesty Days in Adams and Brown

With the issues we have had in recent years with Mosquitoes in the United States you may want to take advantage of the opportunity to get rid of old tires that may be lying around. In Adams and Brown Counties there will be a number of opportunities in October to do just that. Here is a list of days that tires can be taken to a recycling event free of charge. For more information contact Dan Wickerham at 937-378-3431, or send email to dwickerham@abcap.net

Saturday Oct. 8 in Adams County at the recycling center at 95 Trefz Road east of West Union just about a mile off of SR 125 and Compton Hill Road, turn next to the Stone Chappel. The hours are from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

The Brown County locations and times are:

Saturday, Oct. 8 from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm at Ripley Community Park

Saturday, Oct. 8 from 9:00 am – 2:00pm at Aberdeen Fire Department

Saturday, Oct. 22 from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at Perry Township Hall in Fayetteville

Saturday, Oct. 29 from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at Adams Brown Recycling in Georgetown

Large tires have some restrictions, so you may want to call first. Also the Recycling Center reserves the right to refuse any large or extremely dirty tires.

Dates to Remember

Sept. 26 – Oct. 1 Brown Co. Fair see www.littlestatefair.com for schedules or call 378-3558.