

## **Zika Virus PSA Scripts**

May 2016

### **Zika & Your Yard**

A Zika Virus Prevention Tip from the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Mosquitoes can exploit the tiniest pools of standing water in your yard and ruin your summer fun. Check your yard **every week** and dump water out of any containers you see – containers like buckets, cans, bottles, coolers, bird baths, even wheelbarrows and especially saucers under flower pots. Get rid of what you can. Store items upside down when not in use. Or better yet, store them inside or under cover away from rain. Learn more at [mda.maryland.gov/zika](http://mda.maryland.gov/zika)

### **Zika & Your Gutters**

A Zika Virus Prevention Tip from the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Gutters clogged with leaves or debris will allow water to collect **AND** provide food for mosquito larvae. To keep mosquitoes out and the Zika Virus at bay, clean your gutters twice a year in May and November. Learn more at [mda.maryland.gov/zika](http://mda.maryland.gov/zika)

### **Zika & Tarps in Your Yard**

This Zika Virus Prevention Tip is brought to you by the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Tarps over woodpiles, recycle bins or trash cans can all hold many puddles of water and lead to mosquitoes using your yard as their home turf. Shake out tarps after each rain or arrange them to drain water away. Keep lids on outdoor trash cans or they will collect rainwater and provide a smelly breeding area for mosquitoes. Keep up with your yard maintenance and keep mosquitoes away! Learn more at [mda.maryland.gov/zika](http://mda.maryland.gov/zika)

### **Zika & Children's Toys**

A Zika Virus Prevention Tip from the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Kids love playing in the yard, but their plastic toys usually have nooks and crannies that hold water after it rains. Within a week, your children might be hiding inside to avoid all of the 'skeeters in your yard. Don't let your kid's toys become mosquito nurseries – dump out any water after it rains and store their toys inside or under cover. Learn more at [mda.maryland.gov/zika](http://mda.maryland.gov/zika)

### **Zika & Your Drain Pipes**

A Zika Virus Prevention Tip from the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Flexible corrugated drainpipe may keep water away from your house **BUT** each small corrugation can retain enough rainwater to support hundreds of mosquito larvae. Replace corrugated pipe with PVC pipe **OR** screen the open end and make sure it's attached to downspouts with **NO** gaps. Learn more at [mda.maryland.gov/zika](http://mda.maryland.gov/zika)

### **Zika & Your Swimming Pool**

A Zika Virus Prevention Tip from the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Do you have a swimming pool you no longer use? Pool water not being treated with chlorine will become a massive breeding ground for mosquitoes. Drain water out of your pool if possible, and treat any remaining water with a product such as Mosquito Dunks or Mosquito Torpedoes. **Always** treat the skimmer baskets of in-ground pools. Don't let mosquitoes drown your summer fun! Learn more at [mda.maryland.gov/zika](http://mda.maryland.gov/zika)