

Create Your Own ZERO ZIKA ZONE[©]

The *Aedes aegypti* mosquito which carries the Zika, Dengue, Yellow Fever and Chikungunya viruses has settled comfortably in our tropical region and our homes. Originating in Africa, the pest has come from far but generally flies no further than 100m. **The mosquito most likely to bite you lives its full lifecycle within 100m of your home.**



ZIKA TASK FORCE

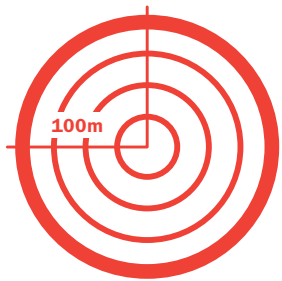
Informing the Caribbean's Response

www.uwi.edu/zika

Information compiled by the experts of the UWI Regional Zika Task Force. Sources:

- Chadee: Resting Behaviours of *Aedes aegypti* in Trinidad: with evidence for the re-introduction of indoor residual spraying (IRS) for dengue control. Parasites & Vectors 2013 6:255
- <http://www.cdc.gov/dengue/resources/30Jan2012/aegyptifactsheet.pdf>

Your attack plan in 4 simple steps



1. Start at your home and map a 100m radius zone



2. Make a personal commitment to conduct weekly checks for possible mosquito breeding sites and eliminate them



3. Involve your community by encouraging your neighbours to do the same



4. Enjoy a Zero Zika Zone as wide as your community, your country and eventually your region

Use these 5 tips to create your Zero Zika Zone

TIP 1

Protect yourself from being bitten

- Apply repellants with DEET
- Wear light colored protective clothing
- Use mosquito nets especially for children and the elderly during the early morning and afternoon

TIP 2

The Aedes mosquito prefers to bite indoors and during daytime

Remember to open all windows during fogging. Also use insecticide sprays in bedrooms since they can host large numbers of adult mosquitoes at certain stages of their lifecycle.

TIP 3

The Aedes mosquito can also breed indoors

Check water collection units in refrigerators and Air-conditioning units as possible breeding sites

TIP 4

The Aedes mosquito can breed above or below ground and in natural sites

Check the common spots where water settles but also look for mosquito breeding sites in these unusual spaces:

Above Ground

- Clogged roof guttering
- Bottle pieces on top of walls or open brick holes
- Open fence posts which can collect water

Below Ground

- Septic tanks with cracked walls or lids
- Clogged drains
- Wells
- Storm drains

Natural Breeding Sites

- The leaves of plants which can hold water e.g., Bromeliads, Pineapple plants and 'Elephant's Ear' plants
- Tree trunks with deep cavities and holes
- Empty giant African snail shells

TIP 5

Eliminate the Aedes mosquito at its source

- Cover all barrels and water containers to prevent breeding
- Use BTI (*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*) larvicide 'Dunks' and 'Bits' in water containers
- Use a Liquid Chlorine Bleach wash to scrub containers and kill mosquito eggs
- Unclog drains or use cooking oil on the surface of stagnant water to suffocate mosquito larvae
- Fill tree holes with sand or soil
- Clear discarded food or drinks containers
- Properly cover/cap open fence posts
- Remove or crush empty giant snail shells