

Neglected or Green Pools



Neglected or “green” swimming pools pose a serious health threat to the residents of Tulare County. Mosquitoes use green backyard pools to breed and multiply into the millions. Mosquitoes only need one half (1/2) inch of standing water to breed and turn into biting adults. Green pools are a threat to public health because mosquitoes can carry West Nile virus and other diseases that harm humans.

Maintenance Options:

Filter your Pool

It is important to properly maintain your pool. A working filtration system will keep the pool healthy and clean. In order for the filtration system to be operating correctly, all equipment should be in good repair. Routinely check the following:

- **The Pump:** This is the heart of the filtration system. It draws water from the main drain and skimmers and pushes it through the filter
- **The Filter:** This removes small particles and debris from the water
- **Sanitizer:** A sanitizer supplies bacteria killing chemicals to your pool
- **Return Inlets:** Inlets return the filtered and chlorinated water back into the pool
- **Skimmers:** These skim the leaves and other floating debris from the water
- **Main Drain:** This is used to suction the water to the filtration system and to drain the pool

If all equipment is working properly, the pool should be clean and mosquitoes cannot breed.

Other Solutions:

The following may be added to the pool to inhibit mosquito breeding:

- Mosquito fish which feed on mosquito larvae
- Bti Mosquito dunks or other approved larvicide
- Other products that control mosquito breeding
 - Use approved products that do not harm people, animals and plants.
 - Follow the directions on all labels carefully

Draining the pool is only a temporary solution. Rain and irrigation water can build up and create more standing water. In addition, water trapped on the top of pool covers can also create a mosquito breeding ground.