



## How can residents protect themselves from Ross River?

Response:

Below are some of the tips for residents to follow to protect themselves from Ross River Virus.

- Avoid outdoor exposure to mosquitoes from dusk and the first few hours after dark.
- Wear protective (long, loose-fitting) clothing when outdoors.
- Install insect screens on doors and windows of homes, and on enclosed outdoor recreation areas.
- Use registered insect repellents.
- Responsible use of insecticides in and around the home.
- To minimise the opportunities for mosquito breeding around the home, action the below.
  - Don't leave water standing around in containers.
  - Keep ornamental ponds stocked with mosquito-eating fish, e.g. goldfish. Keep margins free of vegetation.
  - Keep swimming pools well chlorinated and filtered and free of dead leaves.
  - Fill or drain depressions in the ground that hold water.
  - Vent pipes on septic tank systems must be fitted with mosquito proof cowls. Seal all gaps in lid and ensure leach drains are completely covered.
  - Screen rainwater tanks with insect proof mesh, including inlet, overflow and inspection ports. Ensure guttering does not hold water.
  - Empty pot plant drip trays once a week or fill with sand.
  - Empty and clean animal and pet drinking water once a week.
  - Some pot plants (such as bromeliads) hold water in their leaf axils. These should be emptied of water once a week.

These tips can be found on the City's website.