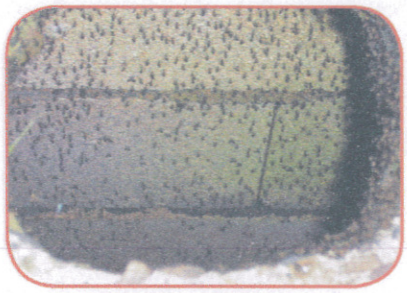
Keep mosquitoes out of your septic tank

Mosquitoes can get inside broken or unsealed septic tanks and lay eggs. Each day thousands of mosquitoes fly out of cracked or broken septic tanks. Mosquitoes can spread viruses like Zika, dengue, West Nile, and chikungunya.

Mosquitoes may be laying eggs inside your septic tank if it is:

- Open or unsealed
- Broken with cracks or spaces between the blocks
- Missing a ventilation pipe screen cover



Mosquitoes in a septic tank

Repair broken septic tank covers

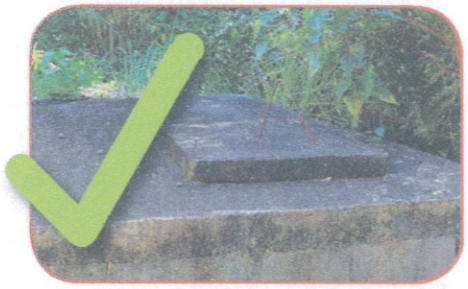
Cover ventilation pipes

Inspect and repair your septic tank to keep mosquitoes out

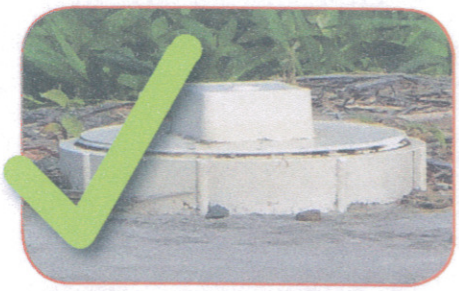
Here's how:

- Seal the septic tank.
- Repair cracks or gaps in the exterior walls of the septic tank using cement.
- Cover ventilation pipes with a screen mesh, repair broken pipes, and seal at the joints.
- Fill abandoned or unused septic tanks with dirt or gravel.

Septic tank ventilation pipe with screen mesh



Septic tank with concrete cover



Septic tank sealed with PVC cap

National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
Division of Vector-Borne Diseases

CS250966 March 9, 2016