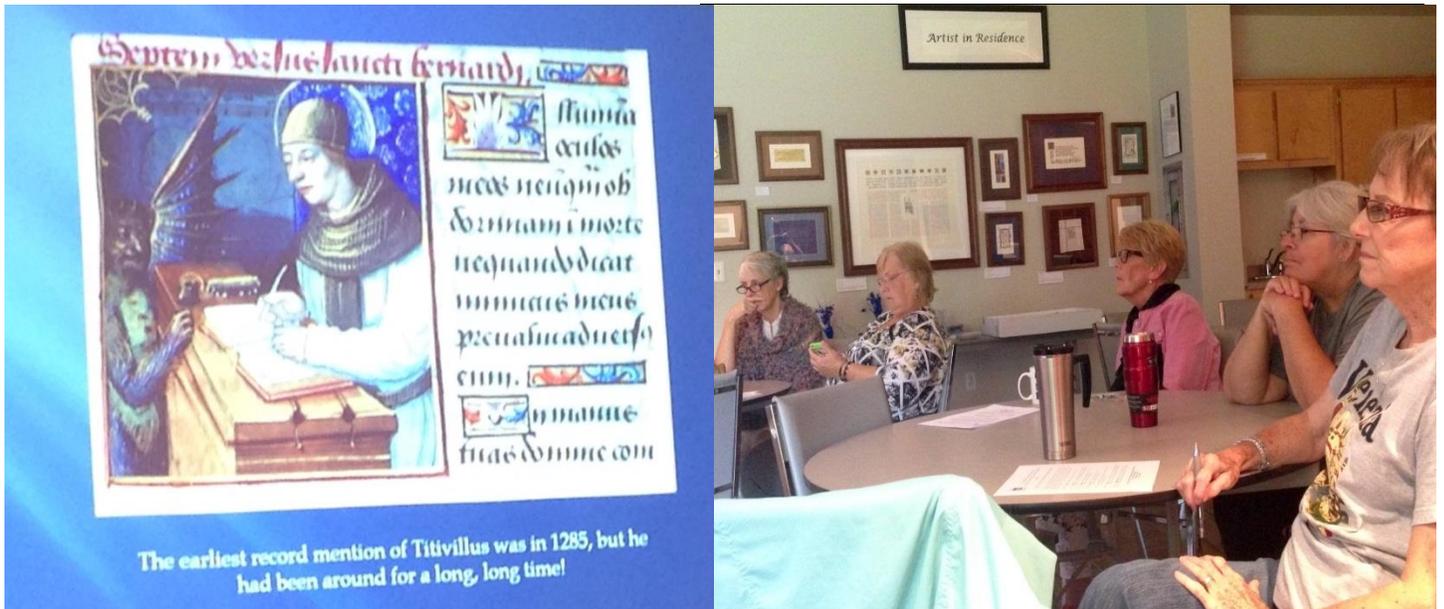




**[Victory Lane BBQ](#)** swept the categories last weekend at the 44<sup>th</sup> annual World's Oldest Barbeque Cooking Contest in Covington and were also awarded Grand Champion. Mayor Hanson presented the trophies to the cookers who won under the guidelines of the **[Memphis Barbeque Network](#)**.



On Saturday, June 4, Artist in Residence Peggy Kunkel kicked off the Summer Lecture Series at the Tipton County Museum with her lecture "Rock, Paper, Stone, plus a Demon: The History of Calligraphy." Her lecture began with ancient cave paintings, and covered the transformations of handwriting to the present day. Included in the experience was the story about Titivillus, the Calligraphy Demon, who was prevalent during the Middle Ages. Ms Kunkel's next class will be July 23. Call 901-476-0242 for more information.



**The Brighton High School Class of 1965 held their reunion at the Tipton County Museum. They honored their Vietnam Veterans with framed Certificates of Honor and Vietnam Commemoration lapel pins. The public was invited to join them in honoring their Veterans. Also in attendance was Tennessee State Representative Debra Moody, Brighton Mayor Sarah Crocker, Tipton County Executive Jeff Huffman, and City of Covington Genealogist David Gwinn. Tipton County Veterans Councilman John McBride was also there and began the ceremony with a blessing. There were 56 people in attendance, and 11 Veterans were honored.**

The regular monthly meeting of Department Heads was held Monday at City Hall. Mayor Hanson opened the meeting congratulating the departments on the work they did and subsequent success of the 44<sup>th</sup> annual Barbeque Cooking Contest. Although the weather could have been better, the festival was well attended and 21 cooking teams competed in the event.

The group was reminded of the Battle of the Badges taking place at Covington High School this Saturday (June 11) as a fundraiser for the Boys and Girls Club in Covington. Several of the Covington Police and Fire Department employees will participate.

Covington Public Works Director David Gray reported that his crews are working hard on grass cutting after all the recent rains. He hopes to catch up on all the grass cutting and weed eating responsibilities this week. Crews have begun their summer hours and are reporting to work at 6:30 am. Asphalt paving continues on several city streets, including Barlow, Craig and Mitchell Streets. New paving is also scheduled for Simonton Street from Murphy to Peeler and on Sherrod from Main to East Street. Gray reported there is new information on the City webpage about changes in ordinances regarding curbside pickup and encourages people to read this and be informed of the changes. There are two vacancies in the CPW department and he hopes to have those filled ASAP. [Job postings are on our website](#) or people can apply in the personnel department at City Hall at 200 West Washington Street.

Tiny Barton, Director of Personnel, reported that there have been 10 transfers and/or promotions in the past month, as well as 5 new hires. In addition, personnel has been involved with testing and interviews for new positions in the

Covington Police Department. Personnel department is continuing to work on updating the employee handbook, updating employee pay stubs, bringing in paperless “paychecks”, and ironing out insurance details and overtime schedules as we prepare for the new fiscal year.

Karen Griffin is serving as interim director of Covington Parks and Recreation Department until a new director can be named, which Mayor Hanson expects to happen by the end of this month. In her report, Griffin also thanked the group for their work on the recent barbeque festival and reported that the clean-up from this will be completed by the end of the day. She will ask park maintenance to trim and refresh landscaping at the “Welcome to Covington” signs posted along major highways into our city. She also requested permission to move ahead with some tree removals in the parks, including a fallen tree in Frazier Park. Griffin is working on additional tables and umbrellas for the pool as it kicks off summer hours and classes, [including swimming lessons](#). She is also exploring making improvements to the handicap ramp at the entrance of the pool.

Chief Buddy Lewis of Covington Police Department also thanked everyone, particularly Special Events Coordinator Karen Griffin on the success of the barbeque festival. Chief Lewis is in the process of hiring a full time police officer and hopes to have that person in position by the first of the month. Chief Lewis attended the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police quarterly meeting last week in Nashville and was appointed to their Board of Directors. Work continues on restoring the old library building for housing the investigative and drug units of CPD. Mayor Hanson is researching options for a new CPD facility and distributed a couple of rough drafts for consideration.

Covington Fire Chief Michael Naifeh reported that his personnel is being trained and getting familiar with the new truck recently christened into the department. They are continuing required training and have their annual pump training and testing on Wednesday. Chief Naifeh thanked Director Barton for her help on converting old records into new, required format. They are making great strides and moving in the right direction. He has asked CARE officer Mark Heaston to visit all high occupancy homes and work with their directors and managers on safety education, including drills. He also stated that CFD will be represented in the Battle of the Badges fundraiser at Covington High School on June 11. This is a fundraiser for the Boys and Girls Club of the Hatchie River Region in Covington.



**Coffee with the Mayor met at Sookie's Bake Shop on the Square Tuesday morning. This is a friendly gathering of citizens with the mayor to drink coffee, enjoy some breakfast snacks, and share good ideas for our city. This is an opportunity to network, learn, share and grow. The next gathering will be at Sookie's Bake Shop on June 21 from 7:30 – 9:00. Join us for lively conversations, good ideas, & coffee, too!**

The regular monthly meeting of the Public Works Committee met Tuesday. Covington Public Works Director David Gray presented the committee with an overview of bids for services for next year. These included items such as chemicals, equipment, materials, and supplies associated with gas, water, sewer, concrete replacement, and road materials.

Director Gray also reported that CPW has started an education process regarding changes to our curbside trash pickup ordinance. He has posted the changes to the City website and will run ads in The Leader. Mayor Hanson will make a public service announcement on our local radio station to help ensure people are informed of the changes. Changes to this ordinance include bulky items and yard waste and become effective July 1, 2016.

Codes Enforcement Officer Lessie Fisher presented handout to the committee regarding activity in that department. In the month of May, Animal Control handled 8 dogs. Four went to foster homes, and three to Dr. Clay. One dog was picked up by its owner. The department also removed 15 illegal signs, sent 14 letters regarding tall grass or excessive trash, and handled 25 complaints of various nature.

Alderman John Edwards alerted Director Gray to some blockages in Town Creek. Gray stated he has inspected this area and is in the process of determining best plan of action for cleaning it out. He feels there may be a need for contracting in heavy equipment for this purpose. Alderwoman Minnie Bommer asked about the results of a grant written by Tipton County that included cleaning Town Creek. After some discussion, the group concluded this grant was not funded. Alderwoman Bommer suggested reapplying for this or other grants for this purpose when they become available.

The committee voted unanimously to accept the reports.

**It's budget time** ...and the Finance and Administration Committee has met more than usual lately to discuss budgetary concerns and work towards a balanced budget proposal that is agreeable to all. This committee met in a called meeting Tuesday afternoon to further proceed through the budget line by line. Before they began budgetary proceedings, Attorney Rachel Witherington addressed the group concerning the YMCA proposal.

Attorney Witherington and Mayor Hanson recently met with Gerald Parish Recreation Educational Services Director with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation regarding the proposal by the YMCA to operate in the Covington Sportsplex and Aquatic Center facilities. He explained that because the Sportsplex and Aquatic Center have been recipients of grants from the Local Parks and Recreation Funds, there are tight restrictions on how these facilities can be operated. Furthermore, some of the funding included Federal dollars, which are also highly controlled and monitored. Parish warned that if we seek permission to make changes, it may take months to get answers, he wasn't optimistic about those answers, and there would still be restrictions on how the YMCA could manage and operate our facilities even if we could get approval. Attorney Witherington and Mayor Hanson discussed these concerns with the YMCA executives who proposed offering services to Covington. All parties agreed, given the potentially insurmountable obstacles, that perhaps we should suspend negotiations with the YMCA at this time. Covington is in the process of interviewing candidates for the Director of Parks and Recreation position. When the new director is instated, he or she can work with the department and Mayor & Board of Alderman to proceed as they see fit. Final interviews are scheduled for June 20. The Finance and Administration Committee agreed and accepted Witherington's report.

After going through budget proposals line by line and engaging in lively discussions until 5:00, the committee recessed until the next hearing, which is scheduled for June 13 at 1:00.



Covington Public Works Director David Gray, along with Stan Taylor (kneeling) and Jeremy Bryson completed phase I of the Crepe Myrtle Project by setting the engraved tribute markers in place.

The completion of phase I of the Crepe Myrtle Project took place Friday with the setting of the markers. Covington Public Works crews placed the stone markers etched by Covington Granite Works by the 17 Crepe Myrtles already planted along West Pleasant Street leading from US Highway 51 up to the square. There are 5 more plants that will be put in as part of Phase II, which will be in some locations on the square. After this, planting will be suspended for the summer. We will continue to accept donations for the project and will resume planting in the fall. Public Works Director David Gray said this is a real win-win for the City. It is a lasting tribute to people in our community, it beautifies the area, and it saves CPW crews a lot of time because these areas are much easier to maintain than before. Mayor Hanson welcomes you to stroll along the sidewalks and admire the new look. It is very sentimental reading the markers, as well. Some are honorariums, some are memorials, and some are given as complements. We thank everyone who has donated. This is something we can all get behind to beautify our city. For more information, please contact Sara Gangaware at Covington City Hall at 901-476-9613.

### Dates to Remember...

- June 11 – Nancy Foshee will lecture at 10:00 am on the World’s Fair in Chicago in 1893. The lecture will take place at the Tipton County Veteran’s Museum in Covington. Call 476-0242 for more info.
- June 11 – Battle of the Badges – Covington High School – 6:00 - Law Enforcement vs Firefighters! This is a fundraiser for the Boys and Girls Club in Covington – please support the fundraising effort and *enjoy* the event!
- June 14 – Veteran of the Month reception, 6:30 pm at the Tipton County Veteran’s Museum in Covington. This month’s honoree is Victor Johnson. Call 476-0242 for more information.
- June 16 – THIRD THURSDAY at the Chamber Center beginning at 5:00 and hosted by Dyersburg State Community College. After enjoying this gathering WITH refreshments, join us for Ladies Night on the Square.
- June 16 – Ladies Night on the Square - 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- June 25 – FEED THE NEED – 10:00 – 4:00 at The Boys and Girls Club, 412 Alston Circle, Covington. SPECIAL PRESENTATION AT NOON – don’t miss it!



**REGISTER TO VOTE**  
**EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT**

**AUGUST 4, 2016**

**THE STATE PRIMARY/COUNTY GENERAL ELECTION  
THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IS  
JULY 5, 2016. YOU MAY COME TO THE ELECTION  
COMMISSION OFFICE AT 113 EAST CHURCH ST,  
COVINGTON OR YOU CAN REGISTER BY MAIL. YOUR  
REGISTRATION MUST BE POSTMARKED JULY 5<sup>TH</sup>.  
EARLY VOTING WILL BEGIN JULY 15<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH  
JULY 30<sup>TH</sup>. THERE ARE 2 LOCATIONS TO VOTE  
EARLY, THE ELECTION COMMISSION OFFICE AND  
MUNFORD CITY HALL IN MUNFORD, TN.**



**EVERY VOTE COUNTS!!**

**Free Legal Clinics.....Covington First Presbyterian Church....11:00 – 1:00.**  
**1-844-HELP4TN**

- July 23
- September 24

# Farmer's Market

Open: Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays!  
8:00 am until 2:00 pm



The Farmer's Market is located under the water tower just off the square in Covington.

## Small Businesses... Are You Interested in Government Contracting as a source of revenue?

Call the TSBDC office at Dyersburg State Community College today (731) 286-3205, if you would like to attend this Procurement Match-Making event in Clarksville, TN. TSBDC at DSCC, is arranging a **group day-trip to the event for small business owners**. Deadline to reserve your seat for the trip is July 8th. Free conference, free charter bus transportation provided by TSBDC, and lots of great potential for business connections.

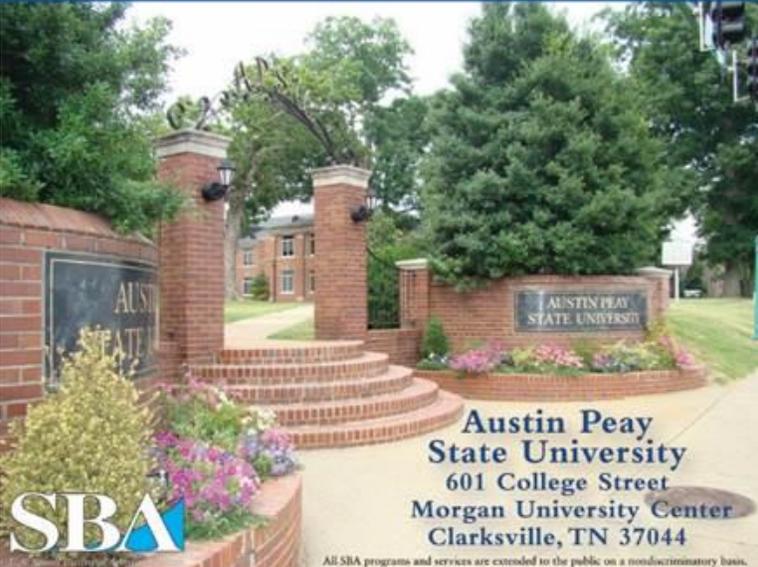
Dutch-treat on your meals.

SAVE THE DATE!

### Tennessee/Kentucky Procurement & Matchmaking Conference

Thursday, July 28th  
8:00 AM – 3:00 PM cst.

The U.S. Small Business Administration and APSU's Clarksville Small Business Development Center invite you to attend panel discussions with key purchasing officers from federal, state and local government. Please join in on one-on-one matchmaking sessions with federal, state and local government representatives and prime contractors.



**SBA**

Austin Peay State University  
601 College Street  
Morgan University Center  
Clarksville, TN 37044

All SBA programs and services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis.

### Maleia M. Evans, MBA

Director Tennessee Small Business Development Center  
Dyersburg State Community College  
1510 Lake Road  
Dyersburg, TN 38024  
Ph: (731) 286-3201  
Fax: (731) 286-3271

**The Tipton County Veterans Council and the Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial  
and Nature Center**

**Veteran of the Month for June, 2016**

## **Victor Johnson**

Victor Johnson was born on April 27, 1957 in Covington, Tennessee. He spent his childhood in Tipton County, and graduated from Covington High School in 1975. During high school, he spent two years working at the Charms Company as a machine operator. In August of 1975 he joined the U.S. Army in Memphis and enjoyed a fruitful 20-year military career, retiring in August of 1995.

He spent 16 years on various assignments out of Germany. He was a Battalion Maintenance Supervisor with assignments in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He provided tactical contingency C2 Communication to the U.S. Army Europa (UDAREUR), European Command (EUCOM), and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) missions within the EUCOM and CENTCOM area of operation. During his time in Berlin, he was assigned to a tank company where he was responsible for equipment maintenance. During the war in Iraq, he was responsible for the training, welfare, professional development, discipline, and combat readiness of 63 soldiers. His quick response and medical skills saved the lives of two soldiers during Operation Desert Storm. Victor enjoyed his time in the Army and was awarded numerous accommodations including two Meritorious Service Medals, four Army Commendation Medals, two Army Achievement Medals, six Army Good Conduct Medals, a National Defense Service Medal, an Army of Occupation Medal, a Southwest Asia Service Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, a Kuwait Liberation Medal, an Army Service Ribbon, four Overseas Service Ribbons, a Driver & Mechanic Badge, and a Rifle M16 Expert Qualification Badge.

Following his retirement, Victor enjoyed a diverse career in the private sector, working as a machine operator for Lydale Manufacturing in Covington; Warehouse Worker/Supervisor for AAA Cooper Transportation in Memphis and Atlanta, Georgia; a licensed real estate agent for Tate Realty in Memphis; and a line technician for Unilever in Covington.

An elder at Canaan Baptist Church in Covington, he has 6 children and 13 grandchildren. His brother Roger, who lives in San Antonio, Texas, and shares his deep religious faith, is also a church elder. Alderwoman Minnie Bommer nominated Victor for Veteran of the Month.

**VETERANS** – Clinics are held WEEKLY to provide you with information – click [here](http://www.tiptonco.com/veterans_services/index.php) to learn more:  
[http://www.tiptonco.com/veterans\\_services/index.php](http://www.tiptonco.com/veterans_services/index.php)

# Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center

751 Bert Johnston Avenue  
Covington, TN 38019 (901) 476-0242



## Frank Lilly Exhibits Artwork and Will Lecture at the Tipton County Museum in Covington!

Frank Lilly's artwork is now on display at the Tipton County Museum in Covington through June 25, 2016. Frank is a native of Clarksdale, MS, and studied at the Memphis College of Art in the 1960's. It wasn't until Frank was in his mid-50s that his work was publicly exhibited.

Though he painted continuously throughout his adult life, most of his time was spent making a living for himself and his family. But even at his jobs, most notably the years he spent as operations foreman at Memphis' Mid-South Coliseum, Frank would find scraps of signs, posters and other materials and add them to his paintings. After years of creating art work that he would either give away or keep for himself, his friends and family encouraged him to approach the Universal Art Gallery in Memphis where his work was then displayed to the general public for the first time in his life.

Today he continues painting and creating mixed media pieces for a wider audience. He is particularly proud of a one man show entitled "Look How Far God Has Brought Us" at Mt. Sinai Baptist church in February 2008 as part of Black History Month. As a true folk artist, his work clearly illustrates many events from his life and times from the cotton fields to the march Martin Luther King led in support of the Memphis garbage workers' union with their prominent "I am a Man" banners. His work can also be whimsical with titles like "Get Me Some Religion, Join the Baptist Church, Become a Preacher So I Don't Have to Work." His paintings and mixed media pieces may be impressionistic but never abstract. As Frank puts it, "My paintings tell stories that make statements people can connect with." Frank's artwork is featured at the Center for Southern Folklore in Memphis. Frank is a Vietnam Veteran.

Frank will be presenting "Everyday Art for Everyday Folk: how to incorporate discarded or reclaimed objects into artwork" on Saturday, June 25 from 10 until 11:30 a.m. at the Tipton County Museum in Covington. For more information please call (901) 476-0242.

The Tipton County Museum,  
Veterans Memorial & Nature  
Center  
Presents:

## 2016 Artist in Residence Peggy Kunkel

Artist in Residence Peggy Kunkel is a calligrapher with over 25 years of experience and has taught calligraphy extensively throughout the Memphis area. She is a past President of the Memphis Calligraphy Guild and is a member of the Tipton Art League. Her exhibition, "This and That", is on display in the Conference room of the Tipton County Museum. She and her husband Keith live in Covington.

- March 22     **Reception:** Come out and meet Peggy! 6:30 p.m., **Free**
- June 4        **Lecture:** "Rock, Paper, Stone, plus a Demon" The History of Calligraphy, 10 – 11:30 a.m., Free to Members, \$5 Nonmembers
- July 23       **Workshop:** "Improve Your Handwriting", 10 a.m. – Noon,  
\$10 Museum Members, \$15 Nonmembers
- August 13    **Workshop:** "Celtic Knots Simplified", 10 a.m. – Noon  
\$10 Museum Members, \$15 Nonmembers
- Oct. 27       **Host:** "Museum Merchant Gala", Meet local artists, 6 – 8 p.m.,  
Free and Open to the Public
- Nov. 19       **Lecture:** "The St. John's Bible", The 1<sup>st</sup> handwritten, illuminated Bible in 500 years, 10 – 11:30 a.m., Free to Members, \$5 Nonmembers
- Sept. 6, 20, 27 **Calligraphy Class:** "Italic Hand", Tuesday nights, 6 – 8 p.m.
- Oct. 4 & 18    \$60 Museum Members, \$65 Nonmembers for the 5 week class

**Tipton County Museum, Veterans Memorial & Nature Center**

**751 Bert Johnston Avenue**

**Covington, TN 38019    (901) 476-0242**

# Summer Lecture Series 2016

Saturday mornings in June

10 – 11:30 a.m.,

Free to Museum Members

\$5.00 General Public

- June 4      “Rock, Paper, Stone, plus a Demon; the History of Calligraphy.” Peggy Kunkel,  
Artist in Residence
- June 11     “World’s Columbian Exposition of 1893; American Ingenuity on Display Then and Now.” Nancy  
Fosheé, Award Winning Author
- June 18     “A Visual Voyage: The Art & Life of Claude Monet.” Tipton County Museum Director Barrie  
Foster (Optional art class, “Painting with Monet” to follow in the afternoon. Separate  
registration required.)
- June 25     “Everyday Art for Everyday Folk; how to incorporate discarded or reclaimed objects into  
artwork.” Frank Lilly, folk artist & Vietnam Veteran

**Refreshments will be served.**

**Museum memberships start at \$25 and are available at the door.**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

## Help Control Mosquitoes that Spread Dengue, Chikungunya, and Zika Viruses

Aside from being itchy and annoying, the bite of an infected female mosquito (*Aedes aegypti* or *Aedes albopictus*) can spread dengue, chikungunya, or Zika viruses. People become infected with dengue, chikungunya, or Zika after being bitten by an infected mosquito.

Female mosquitoes lay several hundred eggs on the walls of water-filled containers. Eggs stick to containers like glue and remain attached until they are scrubbed off. When water covers the eggs, they hatch and become adults in about a week.

Adult mosquitoes live inside and outside.

They prefer to bite during the day.

A few infected mosquitoes can produce large outbreaks in a community and put your family at risk.

## Protect Yourself, Your Family, and Community from Mosquitoes

### 1. Eliminate standing water in and around your home:

- **Once a week**, empty and scrub, turn over, cover, or throw out items that hold water, such as tires, buckets, planters, toys, pools, birdbaths, flowerpots, or trash containers. Check inside and outside your home.
- Tightly cover water storage containers (buckets, cisterns, rain barrels) so that mosquitoes cannot get inside to lay eggs.
- For containers without lids, use wire mesh with holes smaller than an adult mosquito.

### 2. If you have a septic tank, follow these steps:

- Repair cracks or gaps.
- Cover open vent or plumbing pipes. Use wire mesh with holes smaller than an adult mosquito.

### 3. Keep mosquitoes out of your home:

- Use screens on windows and doors.
- Repair holes in screens.
- Use air conditioning when available.
- Put plants in soil, not in water.
- Drain water from pools when not in use.
- Recycle used tires or keep them protected from rain.
- Drain & dump any standing water.
- Weekly, scrub vases & containers to remove mosquito eggs.

#### 4. Prevent mosquito bites:

- Use an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellent with one of the following active ingredients. All EPA-registered insect repellents are evaluated to make sure they are safe and effective. Always follow the product label instructions.
- Reapply insect repellent every few hours, depending on which product and strength you choose.
- Do not spray repellent on the skin under clothing.
- If you are also using sunscreen, apply sunscreen first and insect repellent second.
- Treat clothing and gear (such as boots, pants, socks, and tents) with permethrin or purchase permethrin-treated clothing and gear. Treated clothing remains protective after multiple washings. See product information to find out how long the protection will last.

If treating items yourself, follow the product instructions carefully.

Do **not** use permethrin products, intended to treat clothing, directly on skin.

- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- **Active ingredient** Higher percentages of active ingredient provide longer protection **Some brand name examples\* DEET** Off!, Cutter, Sawyer, Ultrathon **Picaridin**, also known as **KBR 3023, Bayrepel**, and **icaridin** Cutter Advanced, Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus, Autan (outside the United States) **IR3535** Skin So Soft Bug Guard Plus Expedition, SkinSmart **Oil of lemon eucalyptus** (OLE) or **para-menthane-diol** (PMD) Repel \* Insect repellent brand names are provided for your information only. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services cannot recommend or endorse any name brand products.
- Keep rain barrels covered tightly. Weekly, empty standing water from fountains and bird baths. Keep septic tanks sealed. Install or repair window & door screens.

For more information, visit:

[www.cdc.gov/dengue](http://www.cdc.gov/dengue), [www.cdc.gov/chikungunya](http://www.cdc.gov/chikungunya),

OR [www.cdc.gov/zika](http://www.cdc.gov/zika)