

Shopping List

for plants that help deter mosquitoes

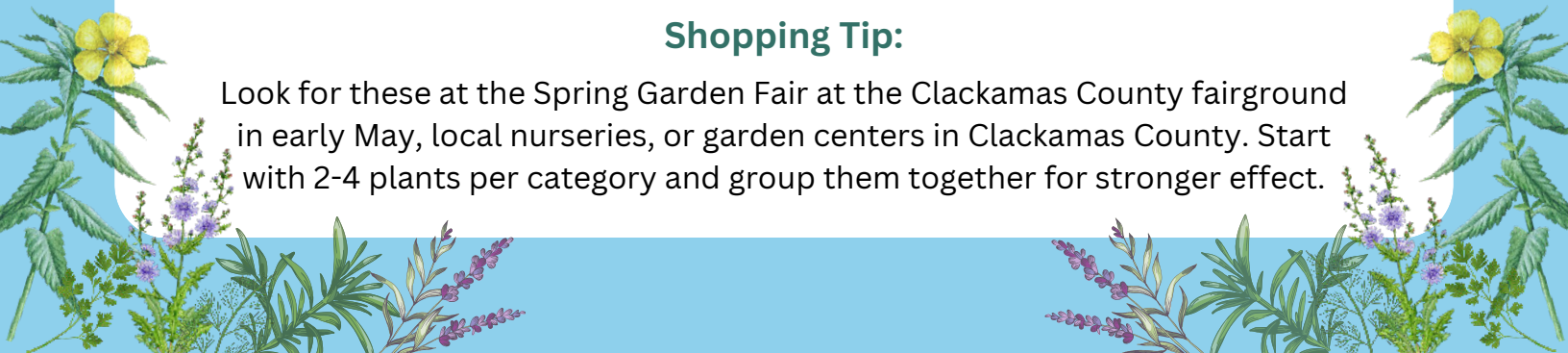
Plant these mosquito-repelling plants around patios, decks, doorways, and seating areas. Their strong scents can help keep mosquitoes away. Crush a few leaves occasionally to release more of their natural oils. These are a helpful addition to your yard—but they work best when combined with eliminating standing water!

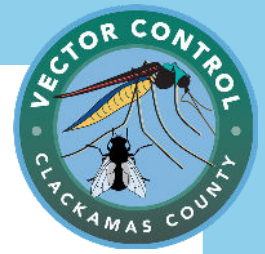
These plants typically grow well in Clackamas County.

- Citronella Grass or Lemongrass**
Classic strong repellent; great in pots; treat as annual or bring indoors for winter
- Lavender**
Beautiful purple blooms and calming scent; drought-tolerant perennial
- Marigolds**
Bright, easy-to-grow annuals; place in pots or borders
- Rosemary**
Fragrant evergreen herb; excellent near patios
- Basil**
Kitchen favorite; plant fresh each spring
- Lemon Balm**
Lemony fragrance; grows easily; contain in pots to prevent spreading
- Catmint or Catnip**
One of the most effective; great for borders or ground cover
- Scented Geraniums (esp. “Citrosa” or mosquito-plant varieties)**
Citrusy leaves; perfect in containers
- Thyme or Chives**
Low-growing culinary herbs; line walkways or edges

Shopping Tip:

Look for these at the Spring Garden Fair at the Clackamas County fairground in early May, local nurseries, or garden centers in Clackamas County. Start with 2-4 plants per category and group them together for stronger effect.





Areas Around Your Yard and Home to Check for Mosquito Breeding Sites

Mosquitoes need only a teaspoon of standing water to breed. Inspect these areas weekly (especially April-October) and eliminate any water:

- Flowerpots, saucers, and planters (empty or use gravel)
- Birdbaths (change water 2-3 times per week)
- Buckets, toys, wheelbarrows, tarps, and kiddie pools
- Gutters and downspouts (keep clean and flowing)
- Old tires, cans, bottles, or any discarded containers
- Rain barrels (cover tightly with fine mesh screen)
- Ornamental ponds, fountains, or unused swimming pools (we'll give you free mosquito fish!)
- Animal water troughs
- Boats, boat covers, bilges, and tarps
- Leaky faucets, air-conditioner drip pans, or any low spots that collect water

Quick Rule: “Dump it or treat it!” Empty or scrub out standing water every 4-7 days.

Contact Clackamas County Vector Control District for Other Services

We're here to help reduce mosquitoes and black flies in Clackamas County through surveillance, source reduction, control methods, and education.

Other Services We Provide:

- **Free mosquito fish** (*Gambusia affinis*) for your ornamental ponds, unused pools, and animal water troughs
- Mosquito and fly inspections and control assistance
- Free educational materials, workshops, posters, and children's books about mosquitoes

Together we can Fight the Bites!

Call: 503-655-8394 **Website:** fightthebites.com

Share this list with your neighbors. A safer Clackamas County starts in your own backyard. Thank you for helping protect our community!

