Eliminate the sources of dengue-carrying mosquitoes

- Dispose of used tires properly or cut the sidewall so water cannot collect; if used around trees, fill with soil
- Turn buckets upside down or store under a roof; if used for plants, make drainage holes in bottom
- Turn drums upside down, store under a roof, or cover with cloth to exclude mosquitoes
- Store tarps and plastic under a roof; tighten tarp covers or make holes to prevent accumulation of rainwater
- Fill or cover holes in concrete, cinder block walls, and metal posts
- Dispose of old appliances, fixtures, autos, and auto parts properly
- Fill or cut away tree holes so they don’t hold water
- Break, bury, or burn coconut shells, or turn them upside down
- Dispose of ice cream containers, Styrofoam, cans, cups, etc. in dumpsters or trash cans
- Store unused boats upside-down, pull drain plug, cover, or store under a roof
- Store corrugated roofing under roof, on its side, or at an angle so water cannot collect
- Change water and clean watering dishes for pets, pigs, etc. daily
- Use plastic flowers in vases with drain holes or be sure to discard dead flowers and clean vases after use
- Water in breeding sites that cannot be drained or removed can be sprayed with a mix of 10 tablespoons/gallon dishwashing detergent
- Cut and clear tall grass and brush which provide refuge for adult mosquitoes and can hide mosquito breeding sites

For more information, contact the American Samoa Department of Health at 633-4627 or 633-4606.

Stop dengue by stopping mosquitoes at the source

Produced by the American Samoa Community College Division of Community and Natural Resources and the American Samoa Department of Health with funding support from the United States Department of Agriculture Integrated Pest Management Program, 2007.
Dengue is carried by mosquitoes that breed in water-holding containers

Dengue and its carriers
- Dengue is caused by viruses that are spread only by certain species of mosquitoes.
- Symptoms of dengue include fever, severe muscle and joint pain, headache, vomiting, rash, and pain behind the eyes. In its most serious form, dengue hemorrhagic fever, it can be fatal.
- Two mosquito species, Aedes aegypti and Aedes polynesiensis, are the major carriers of dengue in American Samoa. These mosquitoes bite mainly during the daytime.

Mosquito life cycle
- Immature stages of the mosquitoes that carry dengue live in standing water that collects in various natural and man-made containers.
- These immature stages, or "larvae", develop in the standing water until they change into "pupae". Then after a few days the winged adults emerge.
- Dengue-carrying mosquitoes cannot develop in the running water of streams or in seawater, and they are seldom found in places such as puddles on the ground, taro leaf axils, or soda cans and bottles.

Breeding sites
- Discarded used tires and tires placed on roofs and around trees
- Buckets, including buckets used for growing plants
- Large metal or plastic drums
- Discarded appliances and fixtures, such as old refrigerators and toilets
- Plastic sheets or tarps and linoleum flooring
- Plastic ice cream containers, tin cans, styrofoam plates, and similar containers
- Unused boats and discarded vehicles
- Metal pipe posts and holes at the tops of cinder block and brick walls
- Coconut shells
- Holes or cavities in trees