


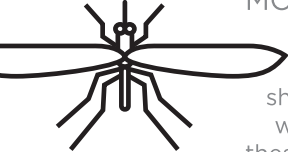



Keep your kids safe

Identify & Treat Backyard Bites

MOST COMMON: SOUTHEAST		BITE I.D.	TREATMENT
	BITING FLIES Mainly found near large bodies of water like pools or ponds. Includes horse and deer flies.	The area where you were bitten will be torn, and will become sore. Red lumps will typically develop around the area.	Use saliva. Once you realize you have been bitten, cover the wound with saliva. The saliva is filled with Histatin protein that contains healing properties which will allow you to limit the negative effects of the bite and protect it until you can get indoors and treat it properly.
	TICKS Primarily found in wooded areas, particularly in places with high grass.	Bites from ticks usually look bright red but are painless. The tick is generally still attached.	Grasp the tick with clean tweezers as close to the skin as possible to remove the head and mouthparts. Pull the tick straight out gently and steadily. Do not twist. See a health care provider immediately if the tick has burrowed into skin or if the head, mouthparts, or other tick remains cannot be removed.
	FIRE ANTS Known to colonize in backyards everywhere in the Southeast, they inhabit large mounds in open areas.	Look for groups of swollen red spots that develop a blister on the top. Stings hurt, itch, and last up to a week.	Treat mild sting reactions by washing the affected area with soap and water and covering with a bandage. Applying ice can reduce the pain. Topical treatments include over-the-counter steroid creams to reduce pain and itch.
	MOSQUITOES Any place with a combination of shrubs and standing water is a haven for these disease carriers.	Pink, itchy and swollen. Adults typically have less serious reactions to mosquito bites than children do.	In the case of a normal reaction, a hydrocortisone cream or calamine lotion will provide relief from itching. For more serious allergic reactions, use an oral antihistamine such as Benadryl or Claritin.
	STINGING INSECTS Backyards in the Southeast provide a perfect habitat for bees, hornets, wasps and yellow jackets.	These are the ones that hurt. With certain insects, a stinger can be left at the site, which is generally red.	If a stinger is present, scrape it away with a straight edge object. Do not pinch or squeeze it. For pain, ice the sting, or take an over-the-counter painkiller like acetaminophen or ibuprofen. If allergic, seek immediate medical attention.

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