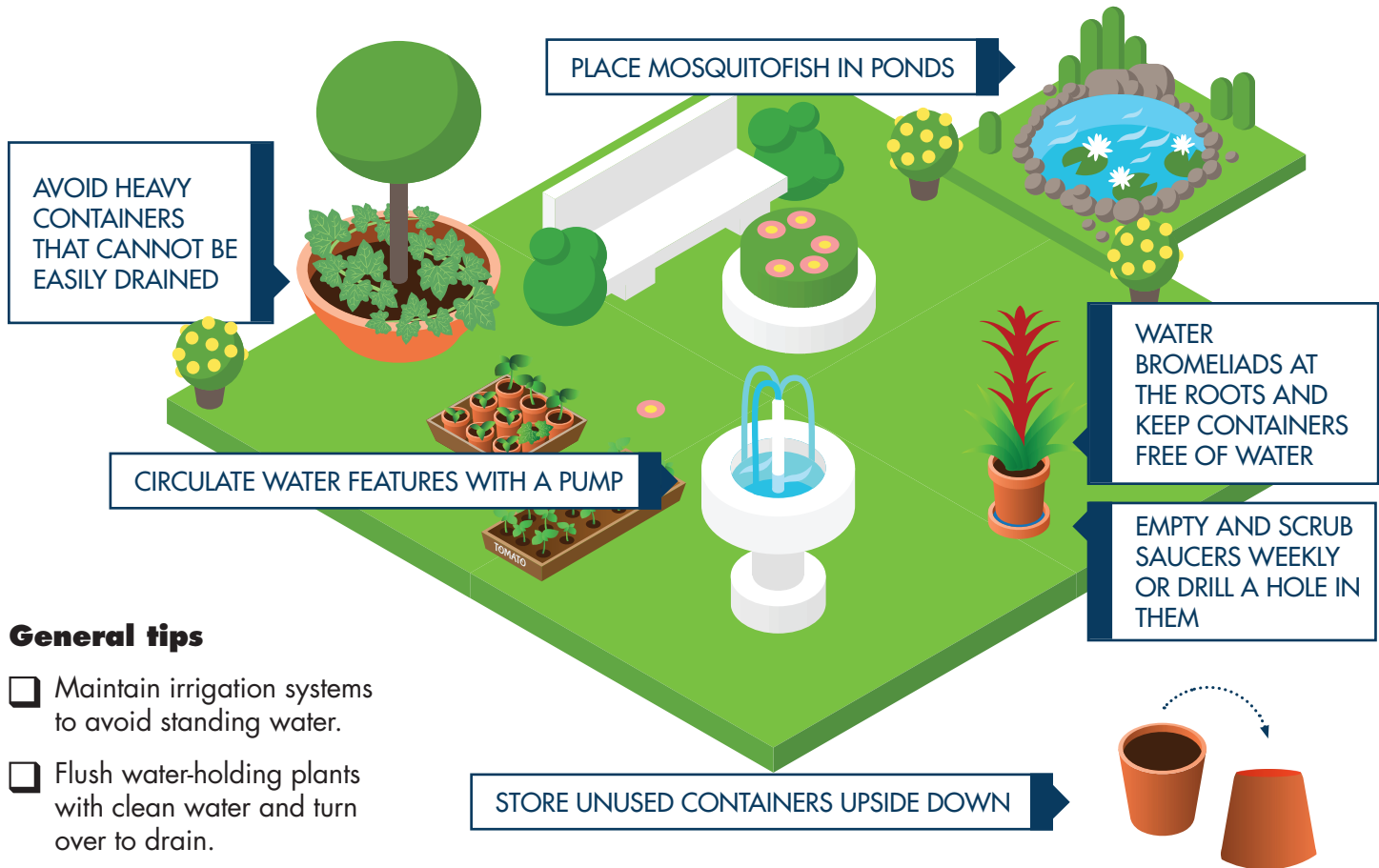


# MOSQUITOES CAN MAKE YOU SICK!

## Eliminate mosquito breeding in your garden.

Plants need water to grow. But water that stands for longer than 4 days can become a breeding site for mosquitoes. Water-holding plants can create hundreds of mosquitoes and increase the risk of mosquito transmitted diseases if a local outbreak was to occur. Use these tips to reduce mosquito breeding and prevent invasive mosquitoes.



### General tips

- Maintain irrigation systems to avoid standing water.
- Flush water-holding plants with clean water and turn over to drain.
- Avoid water-holding plants in displays that cannot be drained every 4 days (living walls, heavy containers).
- Root plants in material that limits standing water (e.g., perlite, plant gel, water storing crystals).
- Inspect garden weekly for mosquito larvae. Contact your local mosquito and vector control district for guidance.
- Store open containers upside down or place under cover to avoid rainfall and irrigation water.

### Water feature tips

- Circulate water with a pump.
- Flush out and replace water every 4 days.
- Use a larvicide treatment.
- Place mosquito-eating fish in water (often available for free from local mosquito and vector control agencies).
- Thin aquatic plants so fish can access all areas.

### Bromeliad tips

- Water bromeliads at the roots and keep the tanks and cups free of water.
- Keep any remaining standing water clear, free of debris, and flushed frequently.
- Prevent bromeliads from multiplying and growing into a dense mass.
- Avoid planting in landscapes or other features that cannot be turned over.