

- Dengue

Group: Manage discards to fight dengue

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RESIDENTS in Quezon City are urged to manage their discards after it was reported two weekends ago that a dengue outbreak was declared over the city.



In a statement on Feb. 16, the EcoWaste Coalition said they are one with the **Quezon City government** in promoting measures aimed at stopping the spread of dengue. Quezon City recorded a total of 1,769 dengue cases from Jan. 1 to Feb. 14, with 10 deaths.

Jove Benosa, EcoWaste zero waste campaigner, appealed “to all waste generators to put the QC Environment Code into practice to help beat the dengue outbreak.” Compliance with Republic Act 9003, or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act, “will deprive *Aedes aegypti*, the mosquito that can spread the dengue virus, with spots to lay eggs.”

He added that the improper disposal of garbage could catch water where dengue mosquitoes can breed.

The group gave the following reminders to residents:

- Segregate discards at source, keeping nonbiodegradables dry and clean.
- Check and remove standing water in your home and neighborhood.
- Keep containers and anything that can collect water in a dry place.
- Cover water tanks, drums and pails with lids or mosquitoproof mesh.
- Drain and clean water containers thoroughly once a week.
- Change water in flower vases weekly.
- Loosen soil in potted plants to prevent water from stagnating on the surface.
- Flip the pot plate to remove excess water.
- Clean pet drinking bowls daily.
- Cut or puncture tires used as roof support to avoid collecting water.
- Clear blocked roof drains to avoid water ponding.

It also cautioned the public from buying and using unregistered household insecticides, mosquito coils and anti-mosquito lotions, patches, sprays and other materials that are not verified by the Food and Drug Administration prior to sale.