



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KILL DATE: (September 1, 2010)

PREVENTING MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASES

HOWELL, Michigan. - (August 23, 2010)

The Livingston County Department of Public Health is advising its residents that the best way to prevent mosquito-borne disease (e.g. Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), West Nile Virus, etc.) is by reducing exposure to mosquitoes.

There are several approaches that people can take to prevent and control mosquito-borne diseases.

- Use insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535 or oil of lemon eucalyptus on exposed skin and/or other clothing. The repellent/insecticide permethrin can be used on clothing to protect through several washes. Always follow the direction on the package.
- Wear long sleeves and pants when weather permits.
- Have secure, intact screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out.
- Eliminate mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets, barrels, and other containers. Drill holes in tire swings so water drains out. Keep children's wading pools empty and on the sides when they aren't being used.

While there is no human vaccine or curative treatment for these mosquito-borne diseases, early diagnosis and supportive therapy are important to prevent serious complications like encephalitis (an inflammation of the brain). Severe cases of EEE infection begin with the sudden onset of headache, high fever, chills, and vomiting. The illness may then progress into disorientation, seizures, and coma. If you think you or a family member may have EEE or some other mosquito-borne disease, it is important to consult your health care provider as soon as possible for proper diagnosis and treatment.

For more information about Eastern Equine Encephalitis, St. Louis Encephalitis, and West Nile Virus, visit our website @ www.lchd.org. and click on Personal Health Fact Sheets under the Personal Health Section

CONTACT:

Donald W. Lawrenchuk, MD, Medical Director
Livingston County Department of Public Health
(517) 546-9850
dlawrenchuk@co.livingston.mi.us
www.lchd.org

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