



Charlie Crist
Governor

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State Surgeon General

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Mosquito-Borne Illness Advisory

JACKSONVILLE, FL– The Duval County Health Department (DCHD) is emphasizing the importance of protection against mosquito-borne diseases after laboratory tests confirmed a 45-year-old female Duval County resident had been hospitalized for West Nile Virus Disease. The individual has since recovered from the illness. This is the first confirmed human case in the county since 2005.

West Nile Virus is a mosquito-borne illness. It is not spread from person to person. The symptoms of West Nile Virus include, fever, rash, headache, fatigue, weakness and dizziness. There is no specific medication or vaccine for West Nile Virus. Residents experiencing symptoms common to West Nile Virus should call their healthcare provider to see if they need to be seen. Physicians should contact DCHD if they suspect an individual may have a mosquito-borne illness.

DCHD advises the public to remain diligent in protecting themselves from mosquito bites by following the 5Ds:

- **Dusk and Dawn** – Avoid being outdoors when mosquitoes are biting.
- **Dress** – Wear clothing that covers most of your skin.
- **DEET** – Use repellents containing 30% DEET. Other effective mosquito repellents include picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, permethrin and IR 3535. Apply to bare skin and clothing.
- **Drainage** – Check around your home to rid the area of standing water, which is where mosquitoes can lay their eggs.

Tips on Repellent Use

- Always read label directions carefully for the approved usage before applying a repellent.
- Products with concentrations of up to 30% DEET are generally recommended. Mosquito repellents containing picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535 can also be applied directly on skin. Permethrin can be used on clothing.
- In protecting children, make sure the repellent is appropriate. DEET is not recommended on children younger than 2 months old.
- Infants should be kept indoors or mosquito netting should be used over carriers when outside.
- Avoid applying repellents to the hands of children. Adults should apply repellent first to their own hands and then transfer it to the child's skin and clothing.

Duval County Health Department

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- Apply insect repellent to exposed skin or onto clothing, but not under clothing. Do not apply repellent to the eyes or mouth, cuts, wounds or irritated skin.

Tips on eliminating breeding sites

- Clean out leaves, troughs and gutters.
- Use screens on doors and windows. Repair broken screening on windows, doors, porches, and patios.
- Do not allow water to collect in garbage cans.
- Remove old tires or drain tires used in playground by drilling holes in them.
- Turn over or remove empty pots.
- Pick up all beverage containers and cups after use.
- Check tarps on boats or other equipment that may collect water.
- Pump out bilges on boats.
- Replace water in birdbaths and pet or other animal feeding dishes at least once a week.
- Change water in plant trays, including hanging plants, at least once a week.
- Remove vegetation or obstructions in drainage ditches that prevent the flow of water.

For more information on mosquito-borne illnesses, visit the DOH Environmental Health website at www.doh.state.fl.us/Environment/medicine/arboviral/index.html

To request City of Jacksonville Mosquito Control to inspect or spray your property or neighborhood contact 630-CITY (2489) and an operator will assist you.

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