



OFFICE HOURS:
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TOWN OF BERKLEY MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF
Board of Health
1 North Main Street
Berkley, MA 02779

The Berkley Board of Health would like to share an important reminder regarding prevention measures against mosquito bites to our community members. According to Massachusetts Department of Public Health Arbovirus Risk Map and Reporting, the risk level of West Nile Virus (WNV) in Berkley has been elevated to moderate based on positive mosquito samples in our region. Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) continues enhanced seasonal surveillance activities for West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE).

What You Can Do to Prevent Mosquito-Borne Illness

Apply an EPA-registered Insect Repellent when you are outdoors. Please review the active ingredient and instructions on the product label. Repellents that contain **DEET**, **permethrin**, **IR3535**, or **picaridin** provide protection against mosquitoes. **Oil of lemon eucalyptus** has been found to provide as much protection as low concentrations of DEET when tested against mosquitoes found in the United States. For guidance on choosing insect repellents, please visit: [MDPH Mosquito Repellents Factsheet](#)

Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours. Early morning and evening hours are peak biting times for mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities during these times.

Use mosquito netting on baby carriages or playpens and consider going indoors if you notice a lot of mosquito activity.

Drain standing water around your home such as buckets, tires, wading pools, at least twice weekly.

Install or repair damaged window and door screens.

When weather permits, wear long sleeves, long pants, and socks.

Protect Your Animals. Stock tanks or water troughs provide excellent mosquito breeding habitats and should be flushed out at least once a week. Horse owners should keep horses in indoor stalls at night to reduce their exposure risk. It is encouraged to discuss mosquito repellents, approved for use in animals, and vaccinations to prevent mosquito-borne disease with their veterinarian.

Information about West Nile Virus and other mosquito-borne illness activity in Massachusetts can be found on the MDPH Arbovirus Surveillance Information page at:

<https://www.mass.gov/mosquito-borne-diseases>. Thank you for your attention.