



Department of  
Environmental

# Mosquito Prevention and Protection

*Always remember the 3 D's of protection from mosquitoes*

## DRAIN:



All mosquitoes require water in which to breed. Be sure to drain any standing water around your house.

- Dispose of any tires.
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers.
- Clear roof gutters of debris.
- Clean pet water dishes regularly.
- Check and empty children's toys.
- Repair leaky outdoor faucets.
- Change the water in bird baths at least once a week.
- Canoes and other boats should be turned over.
- Avoid water collecting on pool covers.
- Empty water collected in tarps.
- Plug tree holes
- Remove water from bottles, barrels, buckets, overturned garbage can lids, etc.

## DRESS:



Wear light colored, loose fitting clothing. Studies have shown that some of the 174 mosquito species in the United States are more attracted to dark clothing and most can readily bite through tight-fitting clothing of loose weave. When practical, wear long sleeves and pants.

## DEFEND:



Choose a mosquito repellent that has been registered by the Environmental Protection Agency. Registered products have been reviewed, approved, and pose minimal risk for human safety when used according to label directions. Four repellents that are approved and recommended are:

- DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide)
- Picardin (KBR 3023)
- Oil of lemon eucalyptus (p-methane 3,8-diol, or PMD)
- IR3535



## SOME RULES TO FOLLOW USING REPELLENTS:

- ⇒ Follow directions on label.
- ⇒ Apply to exposed skin.
- ⇒ Keep repellents away from eyes, nostrils and lips.
- ⇒ Never use repellents over cuts, wounds, or irritated skin.
- ⇒ Do not spray in enclosed areas.
- ⇒ Wash repellent-treated skin after coming indoors
- ⇒ Do not use on animals unless specified on label.
- ⇒ Store out of reach of children.
- ⇒ The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) suggests that DEET-based repellents can be used on children as young as two months of age. Generally, the AAP recommends concentrations of 10% or less, unless disease risk is imminent, then concentration can be increased to 30% or less.

