

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Rick Scott
Governor

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS
State Surgeon General & Secretary

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

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Contact: Renay Rouse, 772-631-6008

MARTIN COUNTY WEEKLY DENGUE FEVER UPDATE

~ Residents urged to take precautions against mosquito bites ~

(Martin County, FL) – The Florida Department of Health in Martin urges residents to continue to take precautions against mosquito borne illness. Routine surveillance has confirmed one additional case of dengue fever, bringing the total to 21 locally acquired in the Rio and Jensen Beach area. This case dates back to the middle of June and was not part of the community survey.

In September, teams from the Florida Department of Health conducted a community survey on dengue fever. Field teams made approximately 2,000 visits to randomly selected addresses in the Rio and Jensen Beach area, providing information on dengue fever and with consent collecting a blood sample for dengue fever analysis. In total, approximately 360 samples were collected.

The Florida Department of Health is now conducting analyses of the information and samples from the survey. Residents who participated in the survey are expected to receive notification of results by the end of October. Routine community surveillance for dengue continues.

The Florida Department of Health and Martin County Mosquito Control advises the public to remain diligent in their personal mosquito protection efforts. These include remembering to “**Drain and Cover**”.

DRAIN standing water to stop mosquitoes from multiplying

- **Drain** water from garbage cans, house gutters, buckets, pool covers, coolers, toys, flower pots or any other containers where sprinkler or rain water has collected.
- **Discard** old tires, drums, bottles, cans, pots and pans, broken appliances and other items that aren't being used.
- **Empty and clean** birdbaths and pet's water bowls at least once or twice a week.
- **Protect** boats and vehicles from rain with tarps that don't accumulate water.
- **Maintain** swimming pools in good condition and appropriately chlorinated. Empty plastic swimming pools when not in use.

COVER skin with clothing or repellent

- **CLOTHING** - Wear shoes, socks, and long pants and long-sleeves. This type of protection may be necessary for people who must work in areas where mosquitoes are present.
- **REPELLENT** - Apply mosquito repellent to bare skin and clothing.
 - Always use repellents according to the label. Repellents with DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, and IR3535 are effective.
 - Use mosquito netting to protect children younger than 2 months old.

COVER doors and windows with screens to keep mosquitoes out of your house

- Repair broken screening on windows, doors, porches, and patios.

Tips on Repellent Use

- Always read label directions carefully for the approved usage before you apply a repellent. Some repellents are not suitable for children.
- Products with concentrations of up to 30 percent DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide) are generally recommended. Other US Environmental Protection Agency-approved repellents contain Picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535. These products are generally available at local pharmacies. Look for active ingredients to be listed on the product label.
- Apply insect repellent to exposed skin, or onto clothing, but not under clothing.
- In protecting children, read label instructions to be sure the repellent is age-appropriate. According to the CDC, mosquito repellents containing oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under the age of three years. DEET is not recommended on children younger than two months old.
- 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.
- If additional protection is necessary, apply a permethrin repellent directly to your clothing. Again, always follow the manufacturer's directions.

For more information on what repellent is right for you, consider using the EPA search tool to help you choose skin-applied repellent products:

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/oppref/insect/#searchform>

DOH continues to conduct statewide surveillance for mosquito borne illnesses, including West Nile virus infections, Eastern equine encephalitis, St. Louis encephalitis, malaria, and dengue fever.

For more information on mosquito-borne illnesses, visit the [Florida Department of Health in Martin County](#) or <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Environment/medicine/arboviral/index.html>.

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