



Town of Marshfield

Board of Health

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PUBLIC INFORMATION UPDATE: EASTERN EQUINE ENCEPHALITIS

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The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has reported to the Marshfield Health Department that Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) has been identified from mosquitoes caught in sample traps. The samples were collected from a traps in the Middleborough / Carver area of Plymouth County. It is important to note that currently there have been no positive mosquitoes found in Marshfield and there are no human or animal cases of West Nile Virus or Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in Massachusetts. Eastern Equine Encephalitis is a rare, but serious illness spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Even though there have been no human cases reported, it is still important to always use precautions to avoid mosquito bites. Here are some ways that you can do this:

Apply insect repellent and wear long pants and sleeves when outdoors. Use a repellent with DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-methane 3, 8-diol (PMD)] or IR3535 according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under three years of age. Clothing can also help reduce mosquito bites. Wearing long-sleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes off your skin.

Be aware of peak mosquito hours. The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning.

Mosquito-proof your home by draining standing water and installing or repairing screens. Homeowners should reduce potential mosquito breeding sites on their property by draining standing water from containers such as buckets, tires, and flowerpots, rain gutters and drains, especially after heavy rains. Prevent mosquitoes from entering the home by having tightly-fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

This is a message from the Marshfield Health Department. For more information, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/mosquito-borne-diseases> or call the Marshfield Board of Health office.

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Town of Marshfield