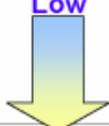


Fact sheet about EEE (Eastern Equine Encephalitis)

EEE is a rare but serious and potentially fatal disease that can affect people of all ages. EEE occurs sporadically in Massachusetts with the most recent outbreak years occurring from 2004-2006 and 2010-2012. There were 22 human cases of EEE infection during those two outbreak periods with 14 cases occurring among residents of Bristol and Plymouth counties.

EEE virus has been found in 366 mosquito samples this year, many of them from species of mosquitoes capable of spreading the virus to people. **As of September 9, 2019, Carlisle is listed as Moderate Risk for EEE.**

Key to Color Coding on EEE Risk Map		
Risk	What it Means	What You Can Do
Remote 	EEE is not usually found in your area	TO Prepare <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know your risk – check regularly at www.mass.gov/dph/wnv • Repair screens
Low 	EEE may occur in your area	TO Prevent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear mosquito repellent between dusk to dawn • Wear long sleeves and long pants from dusk to dawn • Use mosquito netting on baby carriages and playpens
Moderate 	EEE occurred in your area within the last year AND/OR there is EEE in mosquitoes in your area now	TO Prevent – add this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear mosquito repellent when outdoors, especially between dusk and dawn • Avoid outside areas with obvious mosquito activity
High 	Conditions likely to lead to infection of a person with EEE are occurring in your area	TO Prevent – add this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjust outdoor activity to avoid peak mosquito hours (from dusk to dawn) • Avoid overnight camping, particularly near freshwater swamps where EEE activity is most likely
Critical	Excessive risk from EEE virus exists, a person with EEE infection has been identified in your area	TO Prevent – add this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancel or reschedule outdoor gatherings, organized sporting events, etc. to avoid peak mosquito hours (dusk to dawn)

A map of the state's current EEE risk levels can be found [here](#).

People have an important role to play in protecting themselves and their loved ones from illnesses caused by mosquitoes:

Avoid Mosquito Bites

Apply Insect Repellent when Outdoors. Use a repellent with an EPA-registered ingredient (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.

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 in areas of high risk.

Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites. Wearing long-sleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.

Mosquito-Proof Your Home

Drain Standing Water. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by draining or discarding items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty unused flowerpots and wading pools and change the water in birdbaths frequently.

Install or Repair Screens. Keep mosquitoes outside by having tightly-fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

Protect Your Animals

Animal owners should reduce potential mosquito breeding sites on their property by eliminating standing water from containers such as buckets, tires, and wading pools – especially after heavy rains. Water troughs should be flushed out at least once a week during the summer months to reduce mosquitoes near paddock areas. Horse owners should keep horses in indoor stalls at night to reduce their risk of exposure to mosquitoes. Owners should also speak with their veterinarian about mosquito repellents approved for use in animals and vaccinations including boosters to prevent WNV and EEE. If an animal is suspected of having WNV or EEE, owners are required to report to DAR, Division of Animal Health by calling 617-626-1795 and to the Department of Public Health (DPH) by calling 617-983-6800.

[MA Dept. of Public Health 8-29-19]