

IBERIA PARISH MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

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PRESS RELEASE

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The District is urging citizens to follow simple guidelines to protect against mosquito bites during the height of WNV and encephalitis transmission season. West Nile virus activity has been detected in mosquito testing and Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) has reported a human case of WNV in Iberia parish as well as across the state. Prevention is a team effort. We citizens take personal protective measures to avoid exposure to mosquito - borne diseases by mosquito bites. The District will do their part to reduce risk with expanded ground and aerial spray operations. It is imperative that citizens keep insect repellent handy, wear light colored clothing with long sleeves and long pants when outdoors and get rid of mosquito breeding sites near the home! Residents throughout the Parish are urged to follow these simple guidelines recommended by the CDC!

- Apply mosquito repellent that contains **DEET**, Picaridin or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus and apply as directed on the label!
- **Protect children** sensitive to insect bites with repellent and cover exposed skin --- there are many preparations sold in drug stores and camping sections of local stores that are formulated for adults as well as children.
- Wear **Light** colored clothing with long sleeves and long pants when outdoors particularly at **DAWN** and **DUSK**.
- Avoid wearing perfumes or colognes when outside for prolonged periods.
- **Drain** all sources of standing water near your home (i.e. cans, barrels, planters, tires, containers and tarps).
- Keep all pools, spas, bird baths, ponds and fountains clean and free of debris.
- Maintain tight fitting screens on doors and windows.
- Don't **FEED** the storm drains! Sweep up lawn clippings, leaves and tree limbs from sidewalks and driveways.

If you have any questions or mosquito related problems feel free to contact our office at (337) 365-4933. Please visit us on the web www.iberiaparishgovernment.com and click on "Mosquito Control". For more information about West Nile Virus and pesticides for mosquito control please visit www.cdc.gov and www.epa.gov.

For information regarding pesticides (Naled®) used for aerial spraying visit www.epa.gov or <https://www.epa.gov/mosquitocontrol/naled-mosquito-control>

Any questions after office hours please contact Herff Jones (337) 380-7140