

Mandatory stand-up talk

Thursday July 10, 2003

West Nile Virus Prevention

Managers must deliver this stand-up talk on West Nile Virus and associated protective measures to all available employees, beginning immediately and repeating as necessary until all employees have received this message.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is urging Americans to limit exposure to possible insect bites with proper protective care.

- Apply Insect Repellent Containing DEET (N, N-diethyl-metatoluamide) to exposed skin when outdoors.
- Wear long-sleeves, long pants and socks outdoors whenever possible. Spray your clothing and *exposed* skin with repellent containing permethrin or DEET for added protection. But avoid spraying repellents containing DEET on the skin *under* your clothing. Caps and hats can be sprayed with either product.
- Avoid outdoor activities from dusk to dawn — peak mosquito biting time.
- Drain any standing water near your home or office. These places can quickly become breeding grounds for mosquitoes that can carry West Nile Virus.
- And, report any dead birds to local authorities. Dead birds can be a sign that West Nile virus is circulating between birds and mosquitoes in an area.

For more information, contact your local health department or visit any of these websites.

CDC's Insect Repellent Use and Safety page:

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/qa/insect_repellent.htm.

West Nile Virus question and answer page:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/qa/prevention.htm>.

American Mosquito Control Association: www.mosquito.org.

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