



ONEIDA COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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For Immediate Release
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Oneida County Offers Free Mosquito Control *Kits Available from Health Department in June*

UTICA —The Oneida County Health Department is offering county residents help in reducing the mosquito population around their homes and properties.

Beginning June 3, county residents can stop by the Health Department's Environmental Services Office located on the 4th floor of the Adirondack Bank Building at 185 Genesee Street in Utica between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. to receive a free water soluble pouch that assists in controlling mosquito larvae in standing water.

"While mosquitoes are definitely an unwanted nuisance that disrupt our enjoyment of the outdoors this time of year, they can also transmit viruses to people and some animals," said Oneida County Executive Anthony J. Picente Jr. "That's why we must be vigilant in taking precautions to safeguard ourselves from potential harm."

The EPA-approved "Mosquito Beater" product is made by Bonide and designed for outdoor use only and in containerized standing water where mosquitos breed. It cannot be submerged in open or flowing water. Residents receiving the packets must follow all label directions. Limit is one package per household and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last.

To further decrease the mosquito population, residents are advised to reduce or eliminate all standing water around their homes and properties by doing the following:

- Dispose of tin cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots or similar water-holding containers.
- Dispose of used tires, since these are significant mosquito breeding sites.
- Drill holes in the bottoms of recycling containers that are kept outdoors.
- Make sure roof gutters drain properly and clean clogged gutters.
- Remove leaf debris from yards and gardens.
- Turn over wading pools and wheelbarrows when not in use.

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- Change the water in birdbaths twice weekly.
- Clean vegetation and debris from edges of ponds.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas and hot tubs.
- Drain water from pool covers.
- Landscape to eliminate standing water that collects on your property.

For more information, contact the Oneida County Health Department at 315-798-5064.