



ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR
ONEIDA COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DANIEL W. GILMORE, PH.D., MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH



“PROMOTING & PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF ONEIDA COUNTY”

OCGOV.NET/HEALTH

News Release

July 8, 2024
For Immediate Release

Contact: Megan Graziano
315-798-5229

Protect Yourself from Mosquitoes *Oneida County Health Department Offers Tips and Pouches for Residents*

Summer brings sunny days, warm weather and unfortunately, mosquitoes. Mosquitoes are pesky nuisances that can cause itchy bites but can occasionally transmit disease causing viruses to people and animals.

The mosquito transmitted viruses found in New York State are West Nile Virus, Zika Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). Symptoms range from causing mild to life-threatening illness. Mosquito surveillance is conducted each year from June through September. Mosquitoes are collected from established sites and are sent to Wadsworth Laboratory in Albany for testing. Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus pose the greatest threat to humans and mammals in the Central New York region. The best way to prevent illnesses from mosquito bites is to protect yourself and your family from mosquitoes.

Protect yourself from mosquito bites by covering your skin while outside, by using EPA-registered insect repellants as directed and by reducing the areas around your home that attract mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes lay eggs in or near water. Removing or reducing the water around your home can reduce the prevalence of mosquitoes. Try to eliminate all standing water around your home and property where mosquitoes breed such as buckets, flowerpots and saucers, old tires, kiddie pools, bird baths and tarps. Clogged gutters and tree holes/stumps can also be places where water pools. Once a week, empty, turn over, cover or throw out items that hold water. For small areas in your yard where water will pool, you can treat it with larvicides, that are available in different forms, such as pouches.

Oneida County Health Department has Mosquito Beater® water soluble pouches, available for Oneida County residents. These pouches help reduce mosquitoes near your home by treating standing water. They can be picked up at the Environmental Health office located on the 4th Floor at the Adirondack Bank Building, 185 Genesee Street, Utica between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

For more information, visit <https://ocgov.net/departments/health/programs-and-services/environmental-health/vector-borne-disease-surveillance/>.

ADMINISTRATION
ADIRONDACK BANK BLDG., 5TH FL.,
185 GENESEE ST. UTICA, NY 13501
TEL: (315) 798-6400 • FAX: (315) 266-6138

SPECIAL CHILDREN SERVICES
ADIRONDACK BANK BLDG., 5TH FL.,
185 GENESEE ST. UTICA, NY 13501
TEL: (315) 798-5249 • FAX: (315) 731-3491

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
ADIRONDACK BANK BLDG., 4TH FL.,
185 GENESEE ST. UTICA, NY 13501
TEL: (315) 798-5064 • FAX: (315) 798-6486

CLINICAL SERVICES
406 ELIZABETH ST. UTICA, NY 13501
TEL: (315) 798-5748 • FAX: (315) 798-1057