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DOH-Monroe Issues Mosquito-Borne Illness Alert

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Monroe County, Fla.—The Florida Department of Health in Monroe County (DOH-Monroe) is informing residents of two confirmed cases of locally-acquired dengue fever.

DOH-Monroe and Florida Keys Mosquito Control District are coordinating surveillance and prevention efforts that include:

- Intensified door to door mosquito inspections
- Enhanced mosquito surveillance (trapping/monitoring)
- Aerial larvicide and adulticide mosquito treatments as necessary
- Truck mounted larvicide and adulticide mosquito treatments as necessary

Dengue can present as a flu-like illness with severe muscle aches and joint pain, fever, and sometimes a rash. Usually, there are no respiratory symptoms. Symptoms of dengue will appear within 14 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito. Dengue fever is not contagious but is transmitted by the bite of an infected *Aedes aegypti* mosquito.

DOH-Monroe reminds the community to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes by taking these basic precautions.



Protect Yourself with Repellent



Always read label directions carefully for the approved usage before you apply a repellent.



Apply insect repellent to exposed skin or clothing, but not under clothing.



Treat clothing and gear with products containing 0.5% permethrin.
Do not apply permethrin directly to skin.



Some repellents are not suitable for children. Ensure repellent is safe for children and age appropriate.

Stop Mosquitoes from Breeding

Mosquitoes can live indoors and will bite at any time, day or night.



Mosquitoes breed by laying eggs in and near standing water.





As little as one teaspoon or bottle cap of water standing for more than one week is enough for mosquitoes to breed and multiply.

Around Buildings

At least once a week, empty or cover anything that could hold water, such as:

Buckets

Toys

Child Pools and Pool Covers

Birdbaths

Trash, Containers, and Recycling Bins

Boat or Car Covers

Roof Gutters

Coolers Pet Dishes

Tires



Keep them Outside



Use Air Conditioning

Keep Screens on All Windows













The Department continues to conduct statewide surveillance for mosquito-borne illnesses, including West Nile virus infections, Eastern equine encephalitis, St. Louis encephalitis, malaria, chikungunya, and dengue. Residents of Florida are encouraged to report dead birds to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's site.

For more information, visit the Department's website or view the weekly mosquito-borne illness surveillance reports. If you are experiencing any symptoms, please call DOH-Monroe at 305-317-9120.

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