



REPELLENTS REDUCE THE RISK



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The right insect repellent can help reduce your risk of being bitten by mosquitoes and getting West Nile virus. This information will help you choose a repellent and use it safely.

WHICH REPELLENT IS RIGHT FOR ME?

Products containing these active ingredients typically provide good protection: DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (also called PMD) or IR3535. The EPA characterizes the active ingredients DEET and Picaridin as “conventional repellents” and Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus and IR3535 as “biopesticide repellents,” which are derived from natural materials.

REPELLENTS ARE EFFECTIVE WHEN USED SAFELY:

Follow the directions.

Apply only to exposed skin and/or clothing.

Do not use under clothing.

Store insect repellent out of the reach of children, in a locked utility cabinet or garden shed.

Do not apply near eyes and mouth, and only sparingly around ears.

When using sprays, do not spray directly into face; spray on hands first then apply to face.

Never use repellents on cuts, wounds, or irritated skin.

Do not spray in enclosed areas.

Avoid breathing a spray product, and do not use it near food.

After returning indoors, wash treated skin and clothes with soap and water.



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REPELLENTS ARE EFFECTIVE WHEN USED SAFELY: Continued

Do not use any product on pets or other animals unless the label clearly states it is for animals.

REPELLENTS AND CHILDREN

Children frequently put their hands in their eyes and mouths. As a result, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recommends the following:

Do not allow children to handle repellents, and do not apply on their hands.

When using on children, apply to your own hands and then put it on the child.

After returning indoors, wash your child's treated skin and clothes with soap and water.

IS DEET SAFE FOR CHILDREN?

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Committee on Environmental Health has updated their recommendation for use of DEET products on children in 2003, citing:

"Insect repellents containing DEET with a concentration of 10% appear to be as safe as products with a concentration of 30% when used according to the directions on the product labels."

AAP recommends that repellents with DEET should not be used on infants less than 2 months old. Parents should choose the type and concentration of repellent to be used by taking into account the amount of time that a child will be outdoors, exposure to mosquitoes, and the risk of mosquito-transmitted disease in the area.

If you are concerned about using repellent products on children you may wish to consult a health care provider for advice or contact the National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC) through their toll-free number, 1-800-858-7378 or npic.orst.edu

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