



E-NEWS UPDATE ZIKA VIRUS RESOURCES

Mosquito Bite Protection

Summer is here and that means you and your family are enjoying several outdoor activities. But whether you are boating or hiking, both the Board of Pharmacy and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) urge you to take precautions to prevent mosquito bites.

Mosquito season runs from May through October and bites from infected mosquitoes can transmit serious diseases, such as Zika virus or West Nile virus.

While the primary mosquito that transmits Zika virus is found in the tropics and southern U.S. and not known to be established in Ohio, it does have a "cousin" that is found in parts of Ohio and may potentially transmit the virus. The mosquito that carries the West Nile virus is established in Ohio, and cases occur each year with potential seasonal flare ups under certain weather conditions. Mosquitoes can live indoors and outdoors. The mosquitoes that transmit Zika virus primarily bite during the day, and those that transmit West Nile virus primarily bite at dusk and dawn.

The Board urges everyone around active mosquitoes to wear light colored clothing, long pants, long-sleeved shirts, shoes and socks. Also use EPA-registered mosquito repellent and follow the label directions.

For more information, including resources you can share with your patients, the Ohio Department of Health developed the following resources:

- [Zika Virus Fact Sheet](#)
- [ODH Zika Virus Website](#)
- [Mosquito Bite Protection Fact Sheet](#)