



700 EAST OAK STREET  
CANTON ILLINOIS 61520  
Phone: 309-647-1134  
Fax: 309-647-9545  
Contact Us On The Web At:  
[www.fultoncountyhealth.com](http://www.fultoncountyhealth.com)

Astoria Sub-office  
309-329-2922

Cuba Sub-Office  
309-785-5300

## FULTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

An Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

faxed 07/28/05. lh

Date: July 28, 2005

To: Area Media

From: Gordon James, Programs Manager

Re: News Release For Immediate Release

### UPDATED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USE OF INSECT REPELLENTS

Some pest repellents work better than others. When applied according to label directions, products containing 10-30% DEET generally provide two or more hours of protection from biting pests including mosquitoes and ticks. The United States Environmental Protection Agency advises that DEET-containing products not be applied over cuts, wounds or irritated skin. If persons are likely to involuntarily place hands in their mouths, DEET should not be applied to the hands.

Recently the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) changed their recommendations regarding repellents. In addition to recommending DEET, CDC now also recommends products containing the active ingredient picaridin.

A plant-based alternative to DEET and picaridin products are those containing lemon oil of eucalyptus. While products that contain lemon oil of eucalyptus can be effective repellents, they typically do not last as long as those containing DEET or picaridin, and should not be applied to children under the age of 3.

In addition, repellents containing the active ingredient, permethrin, are registered for application to clothing and camping equipment and should not be applied to skin. Permethrin products are effective repellents that can last for weeks when properly applied to clothing - even after repeated washings. A summary of the new recommendations may be found at [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/RepellentUpdates.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/RepellentUpdates.htm)

Please contact your local health department or visit IDPH's website [www.idph.state.il.us](http://www.idph.state.il.us) for additional information.

THE WEST NILE  
RISK LEVEL FOR  
THE WEEK  
ENDING JULY 29,  
2005 IS



**MEDIUM  
RISK**