

From: Stewart Ellenberg
To: Secretaries
Date: 8/19/02 10:32AM
Subject: West Nile Virus Information

Would you please forward this information to your staff members.

I'm sure that many of you have heard that the West Nile Virus has been found in Colorado. The Center for Disease Control recommends the following to reduce the chances of becoming ill from mosquito bites:

- * Apply insect repellent containing DEET (N,N-diethyl-meta-toluamide) when you're outdoors. For details on when and how to apply repellent, see Insect Repellent Use and Safety in our Questions and Answers pages. See also Using Insect Repellent Safely from the EPA [disclaimer]

- * When possible, wear long-sleeved clothes and long pants treated with repellents containing permethrin or DEET since mosquitoes may bite through thin clothing. Do not apply repellents containing permethrin directly to exposed skin. If you spray your clothing, there is no need to spray repellent containing DEET on the skin under your clothing.

- * Consider staying indoors at dawn, dusk, and in the early evening, which are peak mosquito biting times.

- * Limit the number of places available for mosquitoes to lay their eggs by eliminating standing water sources from around your home.

Additional information about the West Nile Virus can be found at

www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm

I suggest that you check out this site to help understand and minimize the risks of this disease.