



NEWS RELEASE Mobile County Health Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mobile County Health Department prepared to resume aerial spraying for mosquito control

In anticipation of adult mosquito populations growing to undesirable levels, the Mobile County Health Department is prepared to resume aerial-spraying control efforts. Low-level flights over sparsely populated FAA-approved routes of Mobile County will be conducted when needed to reach areas generally inaccessible to ground spray vehicles. Ultra low volumes of insecticide will be used to control adult mosquitoes.

How to avoid getting 'bugged' by mosquitoes

- Eliminate mosquito breeding sites by emptying all water from old tires, cans, jars, buckets, drums, plastic wading pools, toys, and other containers.
- Because mosquitoes are more active at dusk and dawn, try to limit outdoor activities during these times.
- Use a good mosquito repellent on exposed areas. Some of the most reliable repellants contain the chemical DEET. All repellants should be used in accordance with label instructions.
- Long sleeves and long pants used with a mosquito repellent help to limit bites.
- Wear light-colored clothing because dark-colored clothing may help attract unwanted insects.
- Wear a light-colored hat or a cap.
- Be aware that scented cosmetics may also attract insects.
- Mosquito bites can be treated with calamine and menthol lotions. Cortisone creams and oral antihistamines are available as over-the-counter medications that can reduce itching. Bites to children should be watched for secondary infections that might need to be treated by a physician.

For more information, contact the Health Department's Vector Control Program at 690-8124.

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