



Macon County Public Health

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Press Release

Macon County Public Health makes mosquito dunks available.

Mosquito season is upon us, and is more concerning this year considering the large amount of rain we've had this spring. Mosquitoes can pass along diseases such as West Nile Virus, Chikungunya, and La Crosse Encephalitis. We need to be fighting the battle against mosquitoes on many fronts. Jim Bruckner, Macon County Health Director says "it's going to take a team effort. We want to encourage residents to focus on minimizing standing water on their property."

Mosquito eggs only need about 4 to 5 days in still water to hatch and become mosquitoes within 2 weeks! Mosquitoes lay eggs in as little as one inch of water in things around our homes such as rain barrels, buckets, tires, birdbaths, swimming pools, ornamental ponds, pet bowls, gutters and natural areas like ponds, ditches, puddles and wetlands. The Tip and Toss Campaign encourages residents to look for these breeding areas and toss the water out.

If you cannot drain standing water, treat it with a chemical larvicide such as mosquito dunks. These dunks are put in standing water and work by not letting mosquito eggs hatch and are not harmful to other animals.

This year, MCPH's Environmental Health Section will be handing out mosquito dunks. "We have a limited supply of dunks available, and we hope that the public will take advantage of this opportunity", says Jonathan Fouts, Registered Environmental Health Specialist. The mosquito dunks can be picked up at the Environmental Health Office located at 1830 Lakeside Drive, Franklin. One packet of dunks will be given per adult that comes to Environmental Health. You can also buy them at your local hardware or garden store. Please follow the product label.

If you have any questions or need more information, you can call MCPH's Environmental Health Section at 349-2490.

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