



# Summit County Public Health

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## SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH PRESS RELEASE

July 22, 2013

Re: Increased Mosquito Activity

There has been significant increase in the amount of mosquitoes and mosquito activity due to the increased amount of rainfall and subsequent flooding this season. SCPH is asking residents to protect themselves from mosquito bites while outdoors. Some of these mosquitoes can be aggressive biters.

Personal protection and eliminating mosquito breeding sites around the home are the key measures. SCPH is continuing their efforts to reduce mosquito populations by treating for mosquito larva and performing evening sprays to help control adult mosquitoes. SCPH is currently monitoring disease carrying mosquito populations. While severe illness is uncommon, individuals need to take action to decrease the risk of contracting a mosquito borne disease. To decrease the presence of mosquitoes, citizens can eliminate mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from any containers in the yard, discarding old tires, changing water in birdbaths at least once a week, and applying “mosquito dunks” to areas of standing water. Dunks can be purchased at hardware stores.

People can protect themselves by staying indoors at times mosquitoes are most active – dawn and dusk. They can wear light-colored clothing with long sleeves and long pants and apply a mosquito repellent containing DEET, to deter mosquitoes. DEET should not be used on infants under the age of one and for older children products should not contain more than 10%. Adults can apply DEET at 30%. Other effective mosquito repellents contain picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus and IR3535.

For more information about mosquito borne diseases or mosquito prevention, please visit us on the web at [www.schd.org](http://www.schd.org) or contact Summit County Public Health Mosquito Control at 330-926-5668.