



Charlie Crist  
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## **BROWARD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ISSUES HEALTH ADVISORY REGARDING MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASE**

**Broward County, Florida**—Broward County Health Department officials received confirmation of a case of Dengue Fever acquired in Broward County.

The individual was diagnosed with Dengue Fever based on symptoms and confirmed by laboratory tests. The individual, who has fully recovered, reported no out-of-county travel in the two weeks prior to becoming ill.

Dengue Fever is a viral disease transmitted by a type of mosquito common to the southeastern United States and the tropics. It is not spread from person to person. The symptoms of Dengue Fever include, fever (over 101 degrees Fahrenheit), severe headache, severe pain behind the eyes, muscle, joint and bone pain, rash, loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting. There is no specific medication or vaccine for Dengue Fever. If you are experiencing symptoms common to Dengue, please call your healthcare provider to see if you need to be seen.

“We are pleased that the person has fully recovered and we will continue to work with our mosquito control partners to minimize the potential for additional infections,” said Paula Thaqi, M.D., MPH, Director, Broward County Health Department. “Fortunately, we can all take steps to prevent mosquito-borne diseases and we encourage all residents and visitors to take appropriate measures to guard against these diseases.”

These include:

- Avoid outdoor activities when mosquitoes are most active.
- **Dress** in clothing that covers the skin (long pants and long sleeves).
- Use **DEET** (with concentrations up to 30%) **or other repellents containing picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus** - when the potential exists for exposure to mosquitoes. It is **NOT** recommended to use DEET on children less than two months of age. Instead, infants should be kept indoors or mosquito netting used over carriers. **Always read the manufacturer’s directions carefully before applying repellent.**
- Check **Drainage** - around your home and rid it and surrounding areas of any standing water where mosquitoes can lay their eggs.
- Make sure that windows remain closed or are sealed completely by **Screens**.  
Keep screens in good repair.

### **Tips on Repellent Use**

- Always read label directions carefully for the approved usage before applying a repellent.
- In protecting children, make sure the repellent is appropriate. DEET is not recommended on children younger than 2 months old.
- Infants should be kept indoors or mosquito netting should be used over carriers when outside.
- Avoid applying repellents to the hands of children. Adults should apply repellent first to their own hands and then transfer it to the child's skin and clothing.
- Apply insect repellent to exposed skin or onto clothing, but not under clothing. Do not apply repellent to the eyes or mouth, cuts, wounds or irritated skin.

### **Tips on Eliminating Mosquito Breeding Sites**

- Remove water in old tires, buckets, garbage cans and other containers where water collects.
- Check clogged gutters and flat roofs that may have poor drainage.
- Fill in holes or dips in the ground that collect water. Level the ground around your home so water can run off.
- Empty birdbaths, water bowls, plant pots and wading pools once or twice a week.
- Store boats upside down or with a cover.

For more information on Dengue Fever, please visit [www.cdc.gov/dengue](http://www.cdc.gov/dengue) and <http://myfloridaeh.com/medicine/arboviral/Dengue.html>.

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