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MEDICAL ADVISORY ISSUED FOR LEON COUNTY
--Human Case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis Confirmed--

Today, Leon County Health Department Administrator Homer Rice announced that Florida Department of Health (DOH) has issued a medical advisory for Leon County after a human case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis was confirmed.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis is transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito. Symptoms may occur in 3-10 days and include high fever, headache, weakness, fatigue and confusion.

Flood waters from Tropical Storm Fay may cause an increase in the mosquito population. Prevention is the key to reduce the risk of EEE and other mosquito-borne diseases. Remember the "5 D's":

- **Dusk and Dawn** -- Avoid being outdoors when mosquitoes are seeking blood, for many species this is during the dusk and dawn hours.
- **Dress** -- Wear clothing that covers skin.
- **DEET** or other repellent -- Several EPA registered products provide repellent activity sufficient to help people avoid the bites of disease carrying mosquitoes including:
 - **DEET** (Chemical Name: N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide or N,N-diethyl-3-methyl-benzamide)
 - **Picaridin** (KBR 3023, Chemical Name: 2-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperidinecarboxylic acid 1-methylpropyl ester)
 - **Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus*** or **PMD** (Chemical Name: para-Menthane-3,8-diol) the synthesized version of oil of lemon eucalyptus
 - **IR3535** (Chemical Name: 3-[N-Butyl-N-acetyl]-aminopropionic acid, ethyl ester)
 - **Always read the manufacturer's directions carefully before you put on a repellent.**
- **Drainage** -- Check your home to rid it of standing water in which mosquitoes can lay their eggs. Elimination of breeding sites is one of the keys to prevention. Tips on eliminating mosquito breeding sites:
 - Clean out eaves, troughs and gutters.
 - Remove old tires or drill holes in those used in playgrounds to drain.
 - Turn over or remove empty plastic pots. Pick up all beverage containers and cups.
 - Check tarps on boats or other equipment that may collect water. Pump out bilges on boats.
 - Replace water in birdbaths, pet dishes and plant trays at least once a week.
 - Remove vegetation or obstructions in drainage ditches that prevent the flow of water.

Physicians should contact the Leon County Health Department at 606-8125 if they suspect an individual may have a mosquito-borne illness. DOH laboratories provide testing services for physicians treating patients with clinical signs of mosquito-borne disease.

DOH continues to conduct statewide surveillance for mosquito borne illnesses, including West Nile (WN) virus, Eastern Equine Encephalomyelitis (EEE), St. Louis Encephalitis (SLE), malaria, and dengue. For more information on mosquito-borne illnesses, visit DOH's Environmental Health website at <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/Environment/hsee/arbo/index.htm> or call the Leon County Health Department at 606-8125.