



## EEE Virus Update for Devens

**DATE: August 22, 2019**

**TOWN: Devens**

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Mosquitoes testing positive for the EEE virus have recently been found in parts of Harvard and Shirley. The Central MA Mosquito Control Project (CMMCP) will continue testing throughout Devens and **spraying will take place this evening, Thursday, August 22 after sunset and end by midnight.**

### **Precautions to observe during a spray application:**

- Generally, there is no need to relocate during mosquito control spraying. The pesticides have been evaluated for this use and found to pose minimal risks to human health and the environment when used according to label directions. Although mosquito control pesticides pose low risks, some people may prefer to avoid or further minimize exposure.

### **Some common sense steps to help reduce possible exposure to pesticides include:**

- Listen and watch for announcements about spraying in the local media and remain indoors during the application to the immediate area. Please remain inside for 15-20 minutes to allow the pesticide to drift through the area, or longer at your discretion.
- People who suffer from chemical sensitivities or feel spraying may aggravate a preexisting health condition, may consult their physician or local health department and take special measures to avoid exposure. Please check this [link](#) to learn more.
- Close street-facing windows and turn off the outside air setting on window air conditioners when spraying is taking place in the immediate area. Central air units do not take in outside air, it's OK to leave them on. You may open windows and activate window AC units 15-20 minutes after the application, or longer at your discretion.
- Do not let children play near or behind truck-mounted applicators when they are in use. Pets should be brought inside if possible or their cages covered to allow a more thorough application to be performed – any accidental exposure to pets should not cause a problem, we are using a pesticide similar to ones used for flea and tick control.

Devens businesses and residents are encouraged to take precautions when outdoors by using insect repellents; wearing long-sleeved clothing; scheduling outdoor activities to avoid the hours around dawn and dusk; repairing damaged window and door screens; and removing standing water from the areas around your home. More details [here](#). Devens continues to participate in the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project.

If you would like to request service for your property, you can call the CMMCP office at 508.393.3055 or on-line at: <http://www.cmmcp.org> . If you would like to have your property EXCLUDED from any spraying, you must contact the State Department of Agricultural Resources and complete a form. Details are available at: <https://www.cmmcp.org/pesticide-information/pages/pesticide-exclusion> ,

The Devens Enterprise Commission and MassDevelopment will continue to work closely with the MA Department of Public Health and the CMMCP to provide public notice, education and limited spraying, when appropriate, in Devens.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Devens Board of Health at 978.772.8831 or the CMMCP at: [www.cmmcp.org](http://www.cmmcp.org)