



## St. Lawrence County Public Health Department

80 State Highway 310, Suite 2 ▪ Canton, New York 13617-1476

Phone: (315) 386-2325 ▪ Fax: (315) 386-2203

### Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) Identified in St. Lawrence County Free Mosquito Dunks Available to Residents**

**St. Lawrence County, NY** – St. Lawrence County Public Health has confirmed the presence of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) within the county. EEE is a rare but serious viral infection transmitted to humans and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. The St. Lawrence County Public Health Department is urging residents to take precautions against mosquito bites to reduce the risk of EEE.

In response to this public health concern, St. Lawrence County Public Health is partnering with the St. Lawrence County Soil & Water Conservation District to provide free mosquito dunks to county residents. These dunks are an effective way to control mosquito populations by preventing mosquito larvae from developing into adult mosquitoes.

#### **Mosquito Dunks Distribution:**

- **When:** Monday - Friday 8am - 4pm
- **Where:** St. Lawrence County Public Health Clinic  
80 State Highway 310  
Canton NY 13617
- **Eligibility:** Free to all St. Lawrence County residents on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last.

Residents are encouraged to pick up mosquito dunks and use them in standing water around their homes, such as birdbaths, gutters, and other areas where water can accumulate. This will help reduce the mosquito population and lower the risk of EEE transmission.

#### **Precautionary Measures:**

In addition to using mosquito dunks, residents should follow these precautions to protect themselves and their families:



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- **Wear long sleeves and pants** when outdoors, especially during dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.
- **Use insect repellent** containing DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus.
- **Ensure window and door screens** are intact and without holes.
- **Eliminate standing water** around your property, including in flower pots, tires, and other containers where mosquitoes can breed.

St. Lawrence County Public Health will continue to monitor the situation closely and provide updates as needed. Out of an abundance of caution, an Imminent Threat to Public Health request has been submitted to the New York State Department of Health for additional reimbursement of vector surveillance and control, and other support. Residents are urged to stay informed and take proactive steps to protect themselves from mosquito-borne diseases.

For more information on EEE and mosquito prevention, please visit [stlawco.gov](http://stlawco.gov) or contact St. Lawrence County Public Health at 315-386-2325

### **Further information:**

<https://stlawco.gov/sites/default/files/PublicHealth/Press%20Release%20-%20Horses%20Identified%20with%20EEE%202024.pdf>

<https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/13035.pdf>