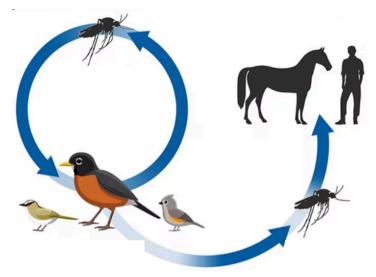
# **Eastern Equine Encephalitis Prevention**

Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) is a virus that is spread by mosquitoes. It can infect horses and humans if a mosquito that is carrying the virus bites them. Although infection does not happen often, when it does happen it may result in death because there is no cure for the disease, only supportive care. There is a vaccine to protect horses from being infected, but not one for humans. The best way for humans to avoid getting the disease is to avoid mosquito bites.



## To keep mosquitoes away, here are some tips:

#### **Dress Properly**

Wear long pants/skirts, a long-sleeved shirt, socks, and shoes. This helps protect your skin from mosquito bites.

#### **Use Mosquito Repellent**

Use a repellent (bug spray) that has DEET, Picaridin, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus, or IR3535. These ingredients help keep mosquitoes from biting you.

To use repellents safely:

- Follow the directions on the repellent's label.
- Put repellent on skin of the arms and legs not covered by clothing.
- Put repellent on the face by spraying a small amount into your hand and then wiping it across the forehead and cheeks (away from the mouth and eyes).
- Do not put bug repellent on young children's hands because they might put them into their mouths.
- Do not put bug repellent on cut or irritated skin.
- Do not reapply the repellent unless you get wet or are sweating a lot.
- Wash skin with soap and water after coming back inside to remove repellent.



Also, screens should be used on doors and windows. Avoid going outside or try to stay in screened-in areas around dusk or dawn when mosquitoes are most active. Here are some easy ways to keep mosquitoes from breeding around your home:

#### Check for Standing Water

Look for items that might hold water, like tires, buckets, planters, flowerpots, or trash containers. Either remove these items or turn them over so they do not collect water. This stops mosquitoes from breeding.

#### **Clear Vegetation**

Clean up any plants or waste around the edge of ponds. Mosquitoes like to hide in tall grass and weeds.

## **Treat Water if Needed**

If you have water that cannot be drained, you can use Mosquito Dunks. These kill mosquito larvae and help keep mosquitoes away.

#### What are Mosquito Dunks?

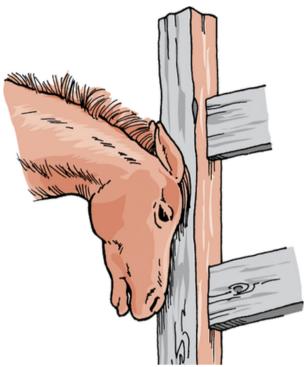
- Mosquito Dunks are made with a type of natural bacteria that stops mosquitoes from growing into flying, biting adults that can carry diseases. They don't use any chemicals to do this.
- Mosquito Dunks are safe to use around people, pets, birds, wildlife and fish.
- Studies show that Dunks cause very little irritation if they are eaten or touch bare skin. Still, try not to get them in your eyes and always wash your hands after handling them.
- One Dunk can treat a 100 square foot area of water, which is about the size of 8 bathtubs or a car parking space.
- It's normal for Dunks to float. They slowly dissolve in water and release the bacteria.
- Dunks start killing mosquito larvae within a few hours, and you should see a difference in about 48 hours.
- Dunks last for 30 days, so you might need to use them again throughout the mosquito season.



# Signs to watch out for in your horse:

- Horses with EEE can resemble horses with rabies
- Impaired vision
- Aimless wandering
- Head pressing
- Circling
- Inability to swallow
- Irregular gait
- Weakness and paralysis
- Convulsions
- Death
- Many horses have a fever
- Muscle twitching

If your horse is sick, contact a veterinarian and the LHD.





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