

Be Aware

With warm weather approaching, the CDC has raised the alert to a level 1 activation, the highest level, for the Zika virus.

Based on all the evidence available and the newest research, scientist from the CDC and World Health Organization have both concluded that this mosquito borne virus causes microcephaly, birth defects and potentially Guillain-Barré syndrome. Not only is the concern spreading but the virus is as well with over 830 cases and climbing from traveling to known territories of the outbreak. Protection is of the utmost concern!

Mosquitos not only carry the threat of Zika virus but also the West Nile virus which can cause a fatal neurological disease in humans. A bite from these infectious insects can have the potential of causing fever, skin rashes, muscle and joint pain, malaise, and headache. For many, symptoms may not arise but they still could be carriers of these alarming viruses. Over 2,060 cases have been reported to the CDC for West Nile virus alone. With every step outdoors, the risk increases.

Since no vaccine or treatment for Zika or West Nile virus exists today, prevention is the best medicine! The only proper protection is an EPA registered insect repellent. When used as directed, EPA-registered insect repellents are proven safe and effective, even for pregnant and breast-feeding women. Current OSHA standard 1926.28(a) "requires protection against all known and recognized hazards". Additionally, "Protective equipment for eyes, face, head and extremities, protective clothing... protective shields and barriers, shall be provided (to workers)".

BugX 25 and BugX 30 are EPA registered formulas that follow the suggestion from the CDC to reduce the amount of DEET concentration in insect repellents. These newly approved EPA formulas allow the DEET to be released in a more controlled and measured manner, permitting longer lasting performance, once obtained only by high concentrations of DEET. The Bug X line of products have all the claims necessary for a compliant skin protection program plus the packaging that makes it affordable (towelette, spray and aerosol) to meet every application. **They effectively repel mosquitos carrying both Zika virus and West Nile for up to 8 hours with each application!**



WORKING OUTDOORS IN WARM CLIMATES

Seasonal warm months pose special hazards for outdoor workers who must protect themselves against heat, sun exposure, and other hazards. Employers and employees should know the potential hazards in their workplaces and how to manage them.

The O.S.H.A standard states "Protect the Employee From All Known and Recognized Hazards" 1926.28(a). That includes skin care.



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