Residents Reminded to Be Vigilant about Protecting Themselves from Mosquitoes

The DPH has raised the West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) threat levels in every Massachusetts city and town to “Moderate,” unless it was already at a higher level. “Taken together, all of these findings point to the fact that the threat of mosquito-borne illness is very real in Massachusetts no matter where you live,” All residents are urged to continue taking personal precautions to protect against mosquito-borne illnesses, including Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile virus. These include using insect repellent, covering exposed skin when outside, and avoiding outdoor activities between the hours of dusk and dawn, when mosquitoes are at their most active when we can be sure that the threat of mosquitoes has passed.”

For more updated information about this and public health fact sheets on EEE and WNV please visit:
www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/dph

- Susan Johnson, MSN, RN, Professor of Nursing