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County Executive

Putnam County
Department of Health
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Michael Nesheiwat, M.D.
Interim Commissioner of Health
Robert Morris, P.E., M.P.H.
Director of Environmental Health

Dear Putnam County Resident:

This bag has been provided to you by the Putnam County Department of Health (PCDOH), and includes information about the Zika virus, how the virus is spread, and what you can do to reduce your risk of being infected. In addition, a mosquito control substance called a "dunk" has been provided through the NYS Department of Health (NYSDOH).

Inside the bag:

- Zika Facts – A brochure containing information everyone should know about the virus.
- 2 Dunks – These are a larvicide, a substance that kills mosquitoes before they fly. The dunks contain a naturally-occurring type of bacteria (*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* or BTI) to control mosquitoes before they can spread illness to humans. BTI is only harmful to mosquitoes and black flies. Dunks, as well as other larvicides, should only be used on your own property in small areas of water that are in containers and that are not "drainable". **Keep out of reach of children and read label directions and enclosed guidance prior to use.**
- Guidance when using Mosquito Dunks, from the NYSDOH.
Guidance for Mosquito Control, from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- A sample insect repellent wipe, containing 30% DEET. **Keep out of reach of children and read label directions prior to use.**

Additional dunks or similar larvicidal products using the bacteria BTI are available in most home centers, hardware stores, garden centers and online retailers.

DEET is an EPA-registered insect repellent. Products that contain 20% or more DEET can provide protection that lasts up to several hours. Use the lowest concentration that you will need for the time you will be outdoors. Products containing more than 30-35% DEET should be avoided. For additional information, visit the NYSDOH website at www.health.ny.gov.

For more information, visit the Putnam County website at www.putnamcountyny.com and click the Zika button on the home page, or call the PCDOH at 845-808-1390.

*Please re-use this bag to support Putnam County's recycling efforts.
Help us keep our county a healthy place to live.*

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