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**ELIMINATING MOSQUITO BREEDING SITES AND PROTECTING AGAINST BITES**

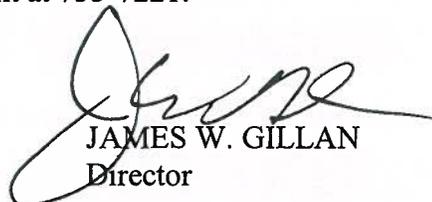
The Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) is encouraging the public to inspect their premises around their homes and businesses for standing water where mosquitoes may breed. Mosquitoes can transmit various diseases, such as Dengue Fever, malaria, and Chikungunya, and while Guam is free of these mosquito-borne diseases, there is always a concern that a person with the disease, or an infected mosquito, may be introduced into our island. One measure we can all take to prevent this from happening is to remove their breeding sites, particularly for the Aedes mosquitoes, which transmit Dengue Fever. Aedes lay their eggs in water-filled containers.

The public is strongly recommended to prevent mosquito breeding sites by:

- Cleaning up all debris, especially those that can hold water;
- Disposing loose tires;
- Cleaning pet water dishes regularly;
- Cleaning, emptying, and properly screening or covering containers used to store water;
- Clearing roof gutters of debris;
- Properly disposing all bottles, cans, buckets, and other containers that can collect water;
- Plugging tree holes;
- Repairing leaky outdoor faucets so as not to create standing water; and
- Changing the water frequently in flower vases and other containers that routinely contain water.

The public is also advised to wear light-colored, loose fitting clothing during outdoor activities as mosquitoes are attracted to dark colors. When practical, wear long-sleeves and pants when going outdoors. Proper application of mosquito repellents that contain 20% to 30% DEET as the active ingredient on exposed skin and clothing decreases the risk of being bitten by mosquitoes.

For any questions, please contact the Mosquito Surveillance and Control Program of the Division of Environmental Health of this Department at 735-7221.



**JAMES W. GILLAN**  
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