



For Immediate Release
August 10, 2026

Please see the below New Release issued by Pinellas County Government:

With spike in mosquito-borne illness detection, take extra care

Pinellas County Mosquito Control has seen increased transmission of mosquito-borne viruses in the county and surrounding Tampa Bay area and is urging residents to protect themselves and their loved ones from mosquitoes and prevent mosquito breeding.

The recent rainfall created plentiful habitat for mosquitoes to breed, including around parks, natural areas, homes and businesses. Mosquito-borne viruses have been detected in Pinellas County, and standing water increases risks of transmission. Mosquito Control has initiated enhanced mosquito treatments such as increased truck fogging, aerial larviciding and localized ground inspections for breeding locations.

Neighboring Hillsborough County has also recently reported confirmed cases of locally acquired dengue fever. As you travel throughout the Tampa Bay area, we encourage residents to take precautions and remain vigilant.

The best way to prevent mosquito bites is to follow the 3 Ds:

- **Dress** in light-colored, long-sleeved clothing with closed-toed shoes.
- **Defend** using an insect repellent with a CDC-recommended ingredient such as DEET, Picaridin, IR3535, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus.
- **Dump** or cover standing water, which can include debris from recent rains holding water.

Pinellas County Mosquito Control works closely with the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) to monitor cases of mosquito-borne illness in our county and respond with mosquito treatment to reduce the risk of illness spreading. If you believe you have a mosquito-borne illness, please immediately contact the FDOH in Pinellas County at (727) 824-6932.